

Jumblatt: civil war has started again

BEIRUT. — Lebanon's civil war has begun anew "on a more dangerous scale" following President Amin Jumblatt's scuttling of a Syrian-brokered peace accord signed by the country's main militias, Druse leader Walid Jumblatt said yesterday.

Jumblatt told reporters during a tour of his Shouf Mountain stronghold southeast of Beirut: "Lebanon is now passing through the most critical and dangerous stage ever."

"We're back to square one and the war is starting all over again on a much more dangerous scale."

Jumblatt and his civil-war ally, Shiite leader Nabih Berri, signed the armistice accord in Damascus on Dec. 28 with Christian militia commander Elie Hobeika.

But Hobeika's militia was defeated in a bloody power struggle with Jumblatt's loyalists on Jan. 15 and he is now in exile in France.

Berri and Jumblatt, who are both

close to Syria, called for Jumblatt's ouster after Hobeika's defeat.

They accused the Maronite Christian president of wrecking the last chance to settle the decade-old civil war in which more than 100,000 people have been killed.

The Syrian Army has meanwhile strengthened its presence around the stronghold of Jumblatt's Phalange Party in the Metn Mountains, a spokesman for the Syrian National Socialist Party said in Douvar.

Habib Keyrouz said that the Syrians had been reinforced around the Metn, which includes Jumblatt's birthplace Bikfaya, some 27 kilometres north of Beirut.

Sporadic shelling between the rival Christians was also continuing in the region, after a car-bomb blast in mainly Christian East Beirut Tuesday in which 30 died and at least 125 were injured, according to the latest figures. (AP, AFP)



Prime Minister Shimon Peres with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at No. 10 Downing Street yesterday. (Reuters telephoto)

Peres meeting Murphy again in London Progress made on forum for peace talks

By JERRY LEWIS and DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondents

LONDON. — Progress has been made in devising ways to convene peace talks between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians during Prime Minister Peres's tour of Europe.

It is understood that the main focus of the diplomatic efforts spearheaded by the U.S. is the question of Palestinian representation in peace talks. It appears that considerable progress has been made towards finding a form of international participation that would satisfy both Israel and Jordan as a beginning for peace talks.

Peres was due to meet U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy late last night to continue talks on these two issues.

Sources close to the premier cautioned yesterday that while much progress had been made, time was running out. It is understood that Israel is especially concerned about King Hussein's actions after February, when the deadline the king gave to the PLO expires. The PLO up to now has shown no signs of committing itself to recognition of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, as Hussein has demanded.

Peres himself has made it very clear that as far as Israel is concerned the PLO has no role in the peace process.

"The PLO casts a heavy shadow over the peace process and an alternative to it must be found," Peres told British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during their one hour and 40 minute talk at 10 Downing Street yesterday morning.

Peres emerged from the meeting into a grey, rainy London morning to tell reporters that several new ideas had been raised and that these ideas

would have to be checked carefully. He did not elaborate, saying that he and Thatcher had agreed not to disclose details of their talks.

Sources in the prime minister's party said the Peres-Thatcher talks centred on the Palestinian issue and the possibility of talks with Hussein within the framework of an international conference. The two leaders reportedly also spoke of cooperation on anti-terrorist measures, of a joint research and development project, and of Soviet Jewry, an area in which Thatcher promised all possible British assistance.

Peres earlier breakfasted with British foreign minister Sir Geoffrey Howe and briefed him on talks held with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy in Holland on Sunday.

Peres and Howe agreed that there were clear signs of a degree of readiness on all sides, including amongst the Arab states, for some type of international forum. Peres told Howe that with Arafat continuing his acts of terror, he did not believe that the PLO was capable of taking any substantive decision.

The one thing Israel and Syria agreed upon, Peres told Howe half-jokingly was the role the PLO should have, or rather should not have.

Howe questioned Peres on the quality of life in the territories and Peres pointed to liberalization in areas such as censorship and the flow of money. Peres said he would have preferred a more liberal policy, but that terrorism on the West Bank had made that more difficult.

The Palestinians suffer more from terrorism than we do," he said.

After lunch with senior British industrialists, headed by Lord Marcus Sieff, Peres delivered a speech to the Royal Institute of International

Affairs during which he urged Europe, the U.S. and Middle East countries to "join hands in an imaginative new Marshall Plan for the development of an economic and technological infrastructure in our region."

"An improved economic foundation," he said, "may produce a better psychological setting for the difficult political decisions required. 1986 is a crucial year. It may be the best year for peace. If wasted, the opportunity may never return."

Israel alone cannot solve the Palestinian problem," Peres continued, "yet the Palestinians alone can prevent the solution. We are convinced that the only way to resolve this problem is through diplomatic means. Under no circumstances can violent methods prevail."

Foreign Min., Labour deny Cairo 'perfidy' over Taba

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Post Political Reporter

The Foreign Ministry and the Labour Party formed an unlikely coalition yesterday when both rejected right-wing allegations of Egyptian perfidy over the Taba arbitration agreement, which was adopted by the inner cabinet last week.

The rumpus, which included the tabling of a no-confidence motion by Tehiya, was sparked off by media reports in Israel that senior Egyptian diplomats, including Foreign Minister Ismat Abdel Meguid, had rejected several major clauses of the Taba agreement.

the agreement, he refrained from commenting on it altogether. Foreign Ministry sources said, Al-Arabi and Kedar, they said, had held a routine meeting in Rome to deal with matters concerning the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai.

Al-Arabi had invited Kedar to Cairo to discuss bilateral issues, the sources revealed. His visit, for which no date has yet been set, will be in addition to the planned visit by the directors-general of the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office within the next week or two.

The sources played down the importance of Meguid's statement to the Egyptian parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee in which he reportedly said that Egypt did not owe Israel a report on Ras Burka. The statement was "surprising," they said, in the light of the assurance by Egyptian chargé d'affaires Mohammed Bassiouny last week that the report would be forthcoming "very soon."

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has instructed Israeli Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson to inquire into the meaning of Meguid's statement, and the directors-general will do likewise next week, the sources said.

Labour Party sources also played

Haifa shipyard workers lock themselves in

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Israel shipyard workers locked themselves in the plant yesterday while they waited for the Jerusalem District Court to rescind the order sending them on indefinite unpaid leave.

Many of the 650 employees spent the night in the plant to forestall any attempts to oust them in the wake of a court order handed down on Tuesday at the request of the shipyard's receiver Amram Blum.

A request for cancellation was due to be heard at the court last night. The appeal was to be lodged by Haifa Labour Council legal adviser Yossi Katz, on the grounds that labour agreements require workers to be given at least two weeks notice before being sent on leave.

Works committee representatives met with Histadrut secretary general Yisrael Kessar in Jerusalem and Trade Unions Department head Haim Haberfeld in Tel Aviv to win the backing of the labour federation in the fight to save the yard.

The plant itself was a bustling hive of frustrated activity yesterday morning, with workers milling about aimlessly, watched by a large police force stationed outside.

The news of the court's summary decision on Tuesday night, stunned the workers.

"I didn't see television or hear the news last night," said Shlomo Zino, who has been working at the yard for 27 years. "The first I knew about it was when I was waiting for the bus on my way to work this morning, and a neighbour told me not to bother because the yard had been closed."

"If they want to dismiss me then they should say so and pay me com-

pensation accordingly. Then it would be up to me to break my own head looking for another job, but at least I'd know where I stand," he said.

Several of the workers vowed to bring their families and relatives to join them on a hunger strike sit-in. "They will have to bury us here, but we won't leave," said 43-year-old Moshe Shitrit, father of five children.

Idle machinery and a solitary ship awaiting repairs gave the yard a

despite some coalition opposition

Budget bill passes its first reading

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

The 1986/7 budget bill passed its first reading yesterday. Only Ya'acov Shamai, who heads the Blue-White Likud faction in the Histadrut, crossed party lines to vote with the opposition.

Although several Alignment speakers spoke sharply against the budget, calling for a tax on capital and a restoration of cuts in benefits to the elderly, their opposition was not reflected in the voting and only the Histadrut secretary-general Yisrael Kessar and Deputy Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino walked out before the vote.

Kessar said that 40 per cent of the unemployed were in the 18-24 age group. But, he said, the message of

the budget to the demobilized soldier who returns to a development town was: "We are now healing the economy. Don't count on us to find you a job."

Kessar warned the finance minister that if he thought he could do as he pleased on devaluation and raising prices "he had better think again."

"The worker has made his share of sacrifices for the sake of the economic plan, and he will not sit quietly for long," Kessar said. Alluding to the threatened nurses' strike earlier this week, he said: "nurses are the first sign."

Ora Namir (Alignment) said she would vote for the bill "gritting her teeth" and in the hope that changes would yet be made giving pensioners and young people a better deal.

In a similar vein, Arbeli-

Almosino said the budget would increase the social gap and offered no solution to the unemployment problem. If these and other shortcomings were not dealt with, she said, "I don't know how the voting will go on the second and third readings."

Yitzhak Artzi (Alignment-Independent Liberals) said that a tax on capital was essential since wage-earners had borne the brunt of the burden until now.

Shamai called the budget "a sure formula for producing a sick society." It was a collection of harsh edicts against wage-earners and the poor, he said.

The criticism expressed by speakers from the two major coalition partners led Garshon Shafat (Continued on Back Page)

Ties with Spain close 500-year gulf

MADRID. — It looks as if in 1992 — the 500th anniversary of Spain's expulsion of the Jews — the seal will be set on the reconciliation of Spain and the Jewish people, a process which began, in a sense, with the establishment of diplomatic relations between Madrid and Jerusalem last week.

Minister of State for International Cooperation at the Foreign Ministry, Luis Yanez-Barnuevo, went out of his way in an interview yesterday to note that he was "happy with Shimon Peres's recent statement that last week's establishment of ties was not just an event between two countries but closed the gulf created between the two peoples in 1492."

In 1992, Spain will mark the 500th anniversary of the crucial date in Spanish history, which saw Columbus's discovery of America and the completion of the Christian reconquest of the peninsula and the expulsion of its last Arab communities back to North Africa. And 1492 also marked the start of the Inquisition and the expulsion of those Spanish Jews who refused to convert to Christianity.

Yanez-Barnuevo, who is also the president of the National Commission for the Commemoration of the Quincentennial of the Discovery of America, obviously hopes to reconcile these disparate elements of Spanish history, in celebrations six years hence.

Benny Morris reports from Madrid

Like most Spanish politicians and members of the intelligentsia, Yanez-Barnuevo recognizes that the expulsion of the Jews had "negative effects on Spanish history." Had the Jews been allowed to remain, he says, it would have been better for Spain.

But he rejects the idea that the episode is "embarrassing." "A thing that happened 500 years ago should not be regarded with the same passion or embarrassment as a recent event. It should be studied and remembered, and its effects on the nation noted," he says.

The 1992 celebrations are quite consciously regarded here as well as a giant public relations gimmick, especially vis-a-vis the EC Nations, the U.S. and Latin America. Included in the planned events are giant history seminars, a "Universal Exposition" (Expo '92) in Seville and Chicago, and possibly also the summer Olympics in Barcelona. Yanez-Barnuevo hopes to present to the world Spain's new, post-Franco, democratic image, to strengthen the feeling of community and the bonds between Spain and the Spanish-speaking states of Latin America, and to explain Spain's heritage as a meeting point of three cultures and religious streams: Christianity,

Islam and Judaism.

The establishment of relations with Israel, says Yanez-Barnuevo, will facilitate this third aim, in the sense of enabling the Jewish aspect to be better understood, both to the Spanish people and internationally.

Yanez-Barnuevo says that he has spoken "many times" to Israel's head of mission in Madrid, Shmuel Haddass, on the subject and while he remains somewhat vague about what exactly the "Jewish input" will be in the celebrations, he is sure these will include joint "seminars" on 1492 and more generally on the Jewish contribution to late Medieval Spanish history and culture.

The head of Spain's Jewish community, Sam Toledano, is a staunch advocate of the "Columbus was a Jew" school of thinking and adds that many of Columbus's crewmen were "certainly Jews" escaping from the Inquisition and Columbus's maps were made by Jews.

Toledano adds that the bankers who financed the Columbus expeditions were Jews. This is the only point on which Yanez-Barnuevo explicitly concurs with Toledano. As to the rest, Yanez-Barnuevo agrees that the Jewish "contribution" to the discovery of America will also be covered by the 1992 celebrations.

Yanez-Barnuevo adds that he believes the Israeli pavilion will be a centerpiece of Expo '92.

He adds that of course there also will be major Arab input in the 1992 celebrations. "Naturally, the Arab countries do not view the reconquista with sympathy," he says with a smile.

Toledano seems to feel that 1992 will provide the Spanish nation with the opportunity to become aware of and reconciled to the major Jewish component of its past and heritage.

"In the expulsion," he says, "Spain drove out one of the most dynamic elements in the society, and it was part of, a symbol of, the general intolerance that brought on Spain's subsequent, rapid decline."

Spainiards, he says, now realize that the expulsion was a mistake, and he feels that the 1992 celebrations will bring home to them their Jewish past and facilitate the historic reconciliation now underway.

As I was leaving Yanez-Barnuevo's office, his aide, Jose Maria Robles Fraga (a nephew of the opposition leader, Manuel Fraga), took me aside and said: "There is Jewish blood in all of us. All of us are Marranos to some degree," he said, meaning, apparently, the middle-upper class strata of Spainiards. He named Cervantes, Torquemada and St. Teresa of Avila as three of the most prominent Spanish Marranos.

But the Latin quotes.

Benny Begin told his interviewers that he had "no special plans about politics. Yes, I am running as a delegate to the forthcoming Herut convention. But there is nothing new in that. I have been a delegate in past conventions and was once even a central committee member for a short time. I have been in those woods and got out safely. I'd like to calm all those of my friends who are curious about my intentions. Once

the convention is over, I will return to my regular life."

But his words have not dashed Herut hopes for a second Begin coming, even if through his son. Eager party activists noted that the younger Begin had lamented the "impoverished quality of participants in the political arena in recent years. What is needed is new forces. That would make the alienation felt by many disappear."

(Continued on Page 7)

Former PM's son on TV: 'Sharon may have misled Begin on Lebanon'

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — Ze'ev Benyamin Begin, son of the former prime minister, yesterday denied that he had any immediate plans to enter the political fray, and hinted obliquely that his father might have been misled on the Lebanon war.

The younger Begin, a geologist, made an unusual appearance on Israel Television's Moked programme. His agreeing to the interview sent a surge of excitement through Herut, which had apparently not abated last night even following his disavowal of any political ambition.

Begin appeared a younger version of his father. Bespectacled, legalistic and sharp-witted, he strikingly resembled his father in mannerism, facial expressions, intonation and style of speech. Even the well-known Begin puns were there — all

but the Latin quotes.

Benny Begin told his interviewers that he had "no special plans about politics. Yes, I am running as a delegate to the forthcoming Herut convention. But there is nothing new in that. I have been a delegate in past conventions and was once even a central committee member for a short time. I have been in those woods and got out safely. I'd like to calm all those of my friends who are curious about my intentions. Once

the convention is over, I will return to my regular life."

But his words have not dashed Herut hopes for a second Begin coming, even if through his son. Eager party activists noted that the younger Begin had lamented the "impoverished quality of participants in the political arena in recent years. What is needed is new forces. That would make the alienation felt by many disappear."

(Continued on Page 7)

Thousands hail activist at B-G airport

By SARAH HONIG
TEL AVIV. — A leading Russian aliyah activist and a long-time refugee, Ilya Essas, arrived in Israel last night. Essas's exit from the USSR was promised recently to World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman.

Jubilant admirers of Essas greeted him at Ben Gurion airport, singing and dancing around the man, who is widely regarded as a revered religious leader. The admirers then followed Essas in a convoy to Jerusalem, Kol Yisrael reported.

Essas is one of the few leading Jewish activists in the Soviet Union to be allowed out in recent months.

His exit is not seen as necessarily presaging a change in Soviet policy, but rather as an exception to the rule and as a special Soviet gesture to Bronfman on his recent visit to Moscow.

Essas is considered the leader of religious Jewish activism in Russia, a movement that unites religious Jews and those who have found their way back to religion despite the militant opposition of the Soviet authorities to all religions.

Essas's following has been described by some as almost haddistic in nature. His self-taught halachic knowledge is such that observant Jews throughout the USSR have tended to consult him on religious problems.

He has run many Hebrew and Jewish studies courses and speaks fluent Hebrew. In the past he has been among the most outspoken of Russian Jewish activists in condemning Russian Jewish emigrants who have chosen to go to countries other than Israel.

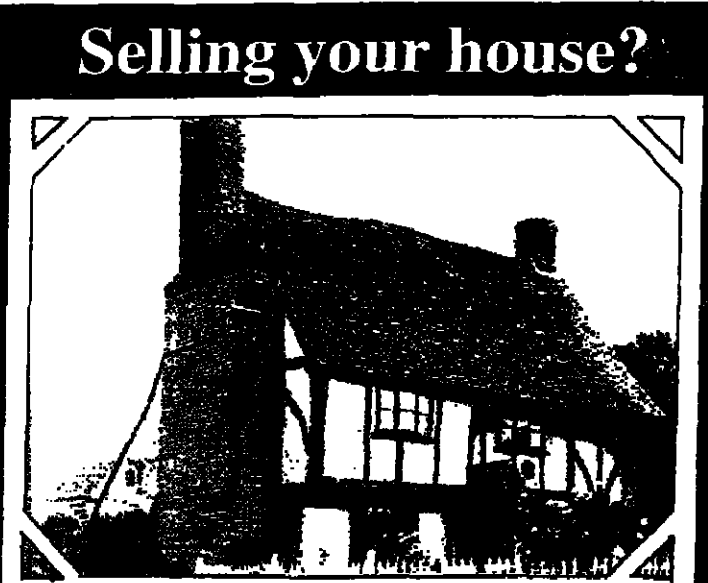
Essas has specifically accused Hias (the American-based Hebrew Im-

migrants Aid Society) of encouraging Soviet Jews not to go to Israel. He claims Hias's behaviour has been a means to prolong the organization's life and raise funds. Were it not for Hias's material inducements, Soviet Jews would not have been deflected from coming here, Essas claims.

He left the USSR with his wife, three children and parents-in-law. His own parents have already immigrated to Israel.

The family will probably live in Jerusalem, where Essas has already been promised a teaching post at the Gold Institute and the Beit Midrash Letora College for religious youth from abroad. Both are operated by the World Zionist Organization's Department for Torah Education and Culture in the Diaspora. The offer was made by department head Yitzhak Meir.

Thousands hail activist at B-G airport



Hurry! There are only a few hours left to place your classified advertisement for tomorrow's Halaah Hehadash. Just take your ad to any advertising agency, or to an office of Ma'ariv or Ha'aretz (or call 03-439380) and it will run in Hebrew in those papers. Hand it in early enough to make sure it reaches the office of Halaah Hehadash before 4 p.m. and your ad will also appear in English in The Jerusalem Post. Beat that deadline!



Ilya Essas holds up his Israeli citizenship papers on his arrival at Ben-Gurion airport last night. (Reuters)

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	23.1.86	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	10	7	13	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	10	7	13	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	17	13	21	Clear
CHICAGO	-11	-18	-4	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	13	10	16	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	10	7	13	Cloudy
GENEVA	10	7	13	Cloudy
HONG KONG	18	15	21	Cloudy
JERUSALEM	15	12	18	Cloudy
LISSABON	15	12	18	Cloudy
LONDON	10	7	13	Cloudy
MADRID	15	12	18	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-10	-17	-3	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-10	-17	-3	Cloudy
OSLO	10	7	13	Cloudy
PARIS	10	7	13	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	21	18	24	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	20	17	23	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-10	-17	-3	Cloudy
TOKYO	10	7	13	Cloudy
TORONTO	-10	-17	-3	Cloudy
VIENNA	10	7	13	Cloudy
ZURICH	10	7	13	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Offices in Israel:
Tel Aviv: 41 Ben Yehuda St. (03) 243350
Jerusalem: 30 Jaffa St. (02) 225230
Haifa: 55a Road (04) 354650
Beer Sheva: 33 Ha'aretz St. (057) 35282

swissair

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	85	7-12	11
Golan	52	-12	10
Safed	72	12-16	17
Tiberias	68	8-16	16
Nazareth	78	-14	14
Afula	78	8-16	15
Shomron	80	4-13	13
Tel Aviv	66	5-16	15
B-G Airport	80	8-16	16
Jericho	59	7-18	18
Gaza	78	8-16	15
Beersheba	71	3-16	15
Eilat	29	7-21	19

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Canadian Hadassah-Wizo National President Cecily Peters has announced that her federation is marking World Wizo's 65th anniversary by naming the dining hall of the Hadassah Children's and Youth Village the Raya Jaglom Dining Hall in honour of World Wizo's President, now entering upon her third term of office.

ARRIVALS

Sam Rothberg, International Chairman of State of Israel Bonds, for a brief visit in connection with the Golda Meir Fellowship Awards.

Rabin accepts 'Star Wars' role

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. - Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has written formally to Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger accepting "in principle" the U.S. invitation to participate in the initial research and development stage of President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), otherwise known as "Star Wars."
In the letter, U.S. officials said yesterday, Rabin suggested that the two governments draft a memorandum of agreement on the subject.
The defence minister noted that U.S. and Israeli experts had already reviewed technical aspects of Israel's participation in Star Wars. A team of Israeli specialists was in Washington last month for talks with Gen. James Abrahamson, the head of the SDI programme, and other U.S. officials.

Israel was invited - together with the Nato allies, Japan and Australia - to participate in research and development for the SDI. Participation will enable Israeli defence companies to bid for some of the project's lucrative contracts. Israel will also be able to share in the military technologies developed in the programme.

U.S. officials yesterday said they expected lawyers to start drafting the text for U.S.-Israeli cooperation on the SDI in the coming weeks.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

IDF needs another \$500m. 'to face present risks' Budget must grow by 15% defence sources warn

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The defence budget must be increased by some 15 per cent if the Israel Defence Forces is to cope with present risks and maintain a reasonable level of security, senior defence sources said yesterday. They indicated that the sum needed was about \$500 million.

The sources complained bitterly at the way the Treasury had imposed cuts in the last three years. They said the defence allocation in 1986, excluding American aid, was 15 to 20 per cent lower than in 1980. Each time the budget is cut, the sources said, the Treasury has promised that that would be the last slash for a number of years. But new cuts have always followed and the army has therefore been unable to plan long-term.

The sources also said that in 1981 the Treasury and the Defence Ministry had agreed that for the next five years domestic funds for the defence budget would total \$3.2b. annually, and that the financing of military aircraft would not come from the defence budget. Later, the cabinet

had also decided that the cost of the Lebanon war would be covered by extra funds.

The sources said that in the last three years the Treasury has forced the IDF to finance part of the costs of the Lebanon war and the cost of unexpected developments. It had also refused to cover losses by the Defence Ministry due to inflation.

"The result is that in addition to direct cuts of \$1.2b. since 1983, there have been other cuts totalling some \$1.5b. over the last three years." They stressed consequently the IDF is taking unprecedented risks and has cut back severely in certain areas. Thus there has been a reduction of about 25 per cent in active reserve duty days, and a 10 to 18 per cent cut in the size of the permanent army, including some senior officers. There has also been a 14 per cent reduction in soldiers' living standards. But even after these cuts, the army has to be further trimmed and will have to be cut back in areas considered essential only a few months ago.

Turning to the Lavi project, the sources said that some \$450m. are spent annually on developing the jet

fighter, which employs 5,000 persons. The sources said the army regarded the Lavi as a national project, on which the cabinet had decided.

"Today the army would not have recommended development of the Lavi, although it must be stressed that it is the best plane the IDF can have," they said. The army could have found alternative uses for the money the sources said.

They hinted that after completion of the Lavi there would be a serious problem if the conscript army and the air force were not provided with sufficient resources. The air force will not purchase the planes unless it has enough money to finance their maintenance," they said. The sources stressed that the Lavi was not one of the army's priorities, and that it would be cheaper to purchase a similar aircraft abroad.

According to the sources, one of the army's main tasks in the near future will be to ensure that its manpower is of proven quality. They said that the army will soon implement its own wage scales which will not be linked to wages in other public sectors.

Police still suspect murder of American tourist, despite 'accident' confession

Hava Ya'ari expected to have remand extended today

By BARBARA AMOUYAL

Hava Ya'ari, prime suspect in the Mala Melavsky murder case, and a 41-year-old Tel Aviv woman suspected of abetting Ya'ari before and after the crime, are to be brought before Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court Judge Haim Eilat this morning for extension of their remands. Police are now gathering evidence on a third suspect, "a man in his early 40s," who presumably aided the two women to cover their tracks on the night of the alleged murder, it has been learned.

Ya'ari, held in the Abu Kabir lock-up since January 9, is suspected of murdering the 58-year-old American tourist to ensure secrecy about some \$51,000 Ya'ari allegedly stole from Melavsky's account at Bank Hapoalim. Melavsky apparently discovered the missing funds and threatened Ya'ari with exposure, police believe.

Police are sticking with their original suspicion of first-degree murder, despite Ya'ari's admission on Monday night that she did, in fact, cause Melavsky's death but that the death was accidental. Ya'ari swore to police investigators during a one-hour re-enactment of the events she claims led to Melavsky's death that the American tourist "fell out" of her car in the heat of an argument between them about the missing bank sums.

Police, however, are not fully convinced of Ya'ari's story, it has been learned. They believe Melavsky was killed by a blunt instrument and then dragged to the Tel Aviv location where the body was found. A source present when the body was discovered told *The Jerusalem Post*: "The face was virtually unrecognizable."

According to Ya'ari's latest version, she panicked and accidentally ran over the woman as she lay prostrate on the ground near the beach in Tel Aviv. She admitted to Inspector Michael Haddad and his team of four investigators that she had

switched the tyres of her husband Ehud's Subaru car in order to throw investigators off course.

Until Monday, Ya'ari insisted that the March 16 meeting scheduled between herself and Melavsky never took place. She repeatedly told investigators, as well as her defence attorneys Edna Kaplan and Dror Makrin, that she had arrived 15 minutes late at the pre-arranged meeting and that she had never met with Melavsky.

Ya'ari had also insisted repeatedly that she was driving her own car, a Volkswagen Golf, and not her husband's Subaru on the day of the meeting. Her latest revelations "have no real influence" on the course of the investigation, said a police source. Police deny reports that a deal was struck in order to extract Ya'ari's latest confession.

A high-level investigating officer formerly connected with the Melavsky case told the *Post* last night he was "unexcited" by Ya'ari's latest confession.

"She never volunteered information about her financial connection to Melavsky until we presented her with all the papers," he recalled.

The police source added that Ya'ari never mentioned the anonymous typewritten letter she allegedly sent to police investigators stating that Melavsky was seen entering a taxi bearing Gaza plates near Dizengoff centre.

"We really took the letter seriously and had considered a sexual or terrorist-motivated crime, but when we traced the typewriter to a Tel Aviv rental agency and proceeded to uncover receipts with Ya'ari's signature, it all started to come together," said the police source.

One recent report said that Ya'ari had hoped for a charge of manslaughter, and thus was inspired to reveal her latest admissions. Her lawyer Dror Makrin last night refused to comment on various media reports and denied that he or fellow

attorney Kaplan had urged her to reveal her actions.

Meanwhile, suspicions have grown surrounding the Tel Aviv woman, nicknamed by the media as "the woman in red." Police now believe she may have had a direct part in the murder or in its aftermath. Suspicions against the woman, a friend of Ya'ari's and a financial broker by profession, were originally limited to allegedly false power-of-attorney signatures, which police believe were used to facilitate transfer of funds from Melavsky's account.

Most recent suspicions concerning "the woman in red" are that she and a third party returned to the scene of the crime in order to erase tyre tracks and footprints. Police originally intended to release the woman before her 10-day remand period had expired. However, police sources now say they will request that Judge Eilat remand her for a further 15 days.

Rabin: Still no firm news on soldiers missing in action

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

NESS ZIONA. - The defence establishment still lacks clear-cut information proving that the Syrians are holding at least one Israeli soldier missing since the Lebanon war, according to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Visiting the Mazlat plant near here yesterday, Rabin was asked by reporters to comment on press reports from Paris which had said that "at least one" of the four soldiers still missing is alive and in Syrian hands.

"We all hope there is truth in them. All of us regard the missing soldiers as live people about whom we know nothing - as long as nothing has been proven to the contrary," Rabin said.

"I cannot say at this moment that we have clear-cut verifications for the reports," he added.

Eli Geva won't get reserve posting

Post Knesset Correspondent

Chief of General Staff Moshe Levy said yesterday that he did not intend to appoint former Aluf-Mishne Eli Geva to a reserve posting in the IDF or even to invite Geva to an interview, because that would "cause increased confusion in the army."

Geva served as a brigade commander during the 1982 siege of Beirut and asked to be relieved of his post because he did not want to take part in an attack on the city for fear of numerous civilian casualties.

Replying to a question from Yosef Sarid (Citizens Rights Movement) in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Levy said that keeping Geva out of the reserves was "not a punishment but an exercise in discretion on the part of the senior command."

Levy said the problem with Eli Geva was not what he had said but what he had done. He also said that he had expressed his reservations to his deputy, Tat-Aluf Dan Shomron, who had publicly suggested that Geva get a reserve posting.

Sharon settles with Time

Post Aviation Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Ariel Sharon yesterday agreed to drop his libel suit against *Time* magazine in the district court here as part of an out-of-court settlement in which *Time* is to share in Sharon's lawyers' fees and court costs.

Sharon's Tel Aviv action began in early 1983, when he sued the European edition of *Time* for \$250,000. At the same time, he filed a \$50 million suit against the U.S. edition in New York.

Both actions followed a report in *Time* that Sharon had discussed the need for the Phalangists to avenge the death of Lebanese president-elect Bashir Jumayyil. The alleged conversation took place before the Phalangists carried out massacres in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila in West Beirut in September 1982. *Time* reported that

El Al to resume Manchester flights

Post Aviation Reporter

TEL AVIV. - El Al will resume its flights to Manchester next week, ending a brief suspension that followed a dispute over security arrangements in the northern UK city.

El Al suspended its service on Sunday in protest against a British decision that it conduct its passengers' pre-flight check-in in a basement hall usually serving flights to Belfast. Until then, El Al's counter was in the hall used by other international carriers.

The British authorities said they had decided on the change after reviewing security arrangements following last month's terrorist attacks in Rome and Vienna. But Israeli officials - including Transport Minister Haim Corfu - regarded the move as a slight to Israel's prestige.

El Al passengers will reportedly first identify themselves in the regular check-in area and go with their luggage through passport control and on to the airport's air-side. Only then will their luggage be searched and taken to the plane.

Catshuis diplomacy - Holland and the peace process

By YOSSI LEMPKOWICZ
For The Jerusalem Post

THE HAGUE. - The Catshuis, the official residence of the Dutch prime minister in The Hague, and the best guarded building in Europe this week would certainly have been called Catsdavid had King Hussein joined Prime Minister Peres and the American Envoy Richard Murphy in their talks there.

But if Premier Rudd Lubbers is no Jimmy Carter, he is still very proud that his country, which presides over the European Community was chosen this week to host such important events as the Gutzwiller-Peres and Peres-Murphy meetings, both of which will give The Hague a place in world diplomatic history.

The secrecy surrounding Murphy's presence here last Sunday gave added importance to the Peres visit, although some observers said it overshadowed it.

"Where is Murphy?" was the journalists' daily question. But the Americans have kept silent on his comings and goings.

"I saw him at 1.30 p.m. leaving the entrance of the Catshuis," Uri Savir, Peres's media-adviser, told reporters in the early hours last Monday.

"Is Murphy going to see Hussein and Peres again in London?" "I can't tell you," was the answer of the Israeli officials who cautioned about "too much premature optimism."

"We are not on the brink of a breakthrough between Jordan and Israel," they said, adding, "it's day by day work and it's moving in the right direction."

Peres's visit to The Hague will certainly also have important consequences for the European Community's position on the Middle East conflict. Peres used his talks with the Dutch EEC officials and with Dutch Socialist and Liberal Party leaders to point out that the PLO, contrary to "unrealistic" European expectations, has not given any positive response to Hussein's demands that he recognize UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

What is important for Peres is that he has had the opportunity to voice Israel's position in The Hague at a time when Hussein appears to be ready to go ahead without the PLO, as the American administration has been pressing him to do. Peres surely hopes that Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek will transmit the message to his European colleagues when they meet in Luxembourg later this month.

With that meeting in mind, Peres said that "maybe we, more than anybody else, are aware of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian problem, because we were in the same position."

With Peres, Israel is busy remedying its international isolation, the Dutch foreign minister was quoted as saying.

"You come to us from what we call the Promised Land, but you in a way are also a promise," the Dutch prime minister told Peres.

According to many observers, Peres's trip here was a great success, not only because of the Spain-Israel agreement and the Israeli-American-Jordanian negotiations, but also because of the "deep impression" he made on his Dutch hosts.

This was particularly in evidence at the official dinner Lubbers tendered for Peres. Recalling the close

relations between Israel and Holland, Peres added: "I think that Mr. Lubbers is the only non-Jewish person, who was a minister in the Joop Uyl cabinet, who has announced that he will never buy oil on Saturdays." The allusion was to the 1973 oil crisis when Holland was the only country to resist the Arab oil embargo in the wake of the Yom Kippur war. Lubbers was at the time minister of economic affairs.

Before leaving Valkenburg naval airfield for London, Peres visited the famous Aalsmeer flower auction-market, and the European space research and technology centre at Noordwijk.

In profound sorrow, we announce the untimely passing of our beloved

BOAZ (Maurice) GOLDMAN ז"ל

Wife: Yael
Brother: Loti and family, England
Children: Ilana, David, Jennie, Rachel, Shmuel, Yitzhak, Merchem, and their families

The funeral took place yesterday at Moshav Amirim.
Shiva at the family home, Moshav Amirim, Galilee.

To Jennifer Feldman
Deepest sympathy on the death of your

Father ז"ל

Directorate and Staff of all Sections of the Israel Broadcasting Authority

Israel gives back \$51m. to American Treasury

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. - The Reagan administration yesterday warmly praised Israel's decision to return \$51 million to the U.S. Treasury. Praise also came from leading members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Republican Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, called the Israeli decision "a noble and courageous." Democratic Senator Lawton Chiles of Florida, the ranking minority member on the Budget Committee, used the occasion of hearing yesterday to laud Israel's decision.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said: "The administration clearly welcomes what the Israelis are saying - the agreement in principle to return \$51m. to help meet U.S. budget cuts." Kalb said the U.S. and Israel were working on the mechanics of how this will be done.

Israeli officials in Washington suggested that Israel may return the money in payments spread over a period of several months.

The amount represents 4.3 per cent of the \$1.2 billion U.S. economic grant already appropriated for Israel in the 1986 fiscal year foreign aid bill. Under provisions of the Gramm-Rudman Law signed into law by President Reagan last month, the administration has had to impose across-the-board budget cuts to reduce the government's large budget deficit.

Israel, unlike other foreign aid recipients, received its entire allocation of \$1.2b. in a lump sum at the start of the 1986 fiscal year. If Israel had not agreed to return the \$51m., the administration would have been forced to further reduce assistance to other foreign aid programmes to meet the overall budget cut.

Israel's \$1.2b. in economic assistance represents one third of the \$3.6b. worldwide economic aid programme. Thus, a refusal by Israel to return the \$51m. would have required an average cut of 6.3 per cent in foreign aid for other recipients.

U.S. and Israeli officials said that Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i agreed over the weekend to return the \$51m. because of Washington's dilemma.

Israeli officials in Washington insisted that the U.S. had not formally asked Israel to do so. They said the Americans had merely explained their problem to Peres and Moda'i.

The U.S. ambassador to Israel, Thomas Pickering, discussed the issue at some length with both Peres and Moda'i. Pickering was in The Hague and London for Peres's talks with Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy.

Dan Halperin, the Israeli Embassy's Economic Minister, denied that there had been any U.S. threats against Israel.

Instead, he said, the Israeli government "had been made aware of the problems that Gramm-Rudman poses for the U.S. administration and agreed in principle to help by volunteering the money."

Beyond the \$51m. loss, Israel is to lose another \$77m. in military grants - or 4.3 per cent of the total \$1.8b. military package slated for Israel in the 1986 fiscal year bill. That money has not yet been disbursed.

Thus, because of the Gramm-Rudman legislation, Israel will now lose \$128m. in the 1986 fiscal year programme.

A State Department official said that Secretary of State George Shultz personally appreciated the Israeli action. "It got us out of a big bind," the official said.

Israeli Embassy officials were clearly pleased by the public relations benefits of the Israeli action. But they also conceded that it would cause economic problems for Israel.

Sir Philip Oppenheimer
Nicholas Oppenheimer
and
The Diamond Trading Company, London

extend their deepest sympathy and condolences to the Schechter family

on the passing of

ELCHANAN SCHECHTER ז"ל

Our deepest sympathy to the Schechter Family

on the passing of

ELCHANAN SCHECHTER ז"ל

Diamdel Israel Ltd.

The plight of the shipyards again draws attention to the labour-troubled port

Haifa and unemployment — facts and myths

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — When big-city unemployment is discussed it is Haifa that immediately springs to mind. But statistics show that there are only marginally more jobless here than the national average.

Haifa Labour Council, which must deal with the city's out-of-work men and women, claims that just under 8 per cent are unemployed, while the national average is 7.5 per cent.

So why does Haifa get the publicity? One reason is because unemployment hit the town in waves, with big firms going under. Thus, over 1,000 jobs were lost when Ata folded; and now there are 650 workers whom the Soltam arms factory wants to lay off, and 650 men at the Israel Shipyards who had the rug pulled from under their feet when the receiver obtained a court order on Tuesday to put them all on unpaid leave, a move which will not even qualify them for unemployment benefit. Yet another reason is the vociferousness of the labour council.

Labour council spokesman Moshe Gutter told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that there are 7,500 Haifaite seeking work, with another 2,500 jobless who have not registered. This second group is comprised mostly of

women and men over the age of 50 who feel they have no hope of a job, or newly demobilized soldiers, who often feel ashamed to register. Haifa's total work force numbers 130,000.

The labour council fears that the situation will worsen considerably in the near future. "We estimate that another 2,500 jobs are in jeopardy, at the Soltam arms factory, the Israel Shipyards, the Shemen oil and cosmetics factory, the Hamegaper shoe factory, Rafael Armaments Development Authority, and among the civilian employees of the Israel Defence Forces, the last two as a direct result of defence budget cuts.

But perhaps the main reason for Haifa's unemployment is that although the government's economic policy was supposed to move workers from services to industry, it is industry that has been hard hit under the new economic conditions in which it must balance its profit and loss accounts. And Haifa relies on industry for its employment, whereas in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the armies of clerks in government and public service have at least to date successfully defied most efforts to achieve efficiency dismissals.

Nor does Haifa have Jerusalem's and Tel Aviv's large hotel industries, which are in turn far less affected by local economic conditions.

Chamber of Commerce director Arye Mehoulal believes that there has been much bad luck behind Haifa factories lay-offs. "Many of them are veterans, with outdated equipment and management, which have been in trouble for years. But they started going under only when the economic going became really tough."

The shipyards are in trouble not only because yards all over the western world are closing or changing direction in response to the continuing shipping slump, but also because the Navy reduced its orders as the country's borders shrank following the withdrawal from Sinai.

On the other hand, Mehoulal notes that Haifa's business and service sectors, particularly its computer services, have been less hurt because, as distinct from Tel Aviv, where they grew far beyond any rational demand, "Haifa always has been more solid and conservative, and it was not caught with a big surplus when the purse strings tightened."

But, as a result of the nationwide crisis in travel services, including the collapse of the Kopel concern, dozens of clerks were also laid off in Haifa.

There is scarcely a factory or business in Haifa, including the science-based industry, that has not reduced its staff. In Tel Aviv, many of the new jobless were able to move into new posts in that city's much larger

labour market. In Haifa, either they register with the labour exchange, and push up the unemployment statistics, or despair.

Not that Haifa workers have taken the deteriorating situation lying down. They have staged often violent demonstrations that made headlines, and this week they sent their representatives to the labour council and decided to stage a general strike next month, unless the government comes up with a job-saving plan.

Time is running out for Haifa. But the situation is grave nationwide. If the government is serious about axing the civil service, the other big towns may soon catch up with Haifa's unemployment figures. The jobless rate in the development towns is well above the national average and, according to the head of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Prof. Moshe Sikron, "it always has been, even when there was full employment."

Taking their cue from Haifa, these small towns will soon be making so much noise over their ills that the agitation from Haifa may become an also-ran in the chase after headlines. Unhappily it is likely to be a long run lasting until the government succeeds in rebalancing the industry-service imbalance that is the scourge of the country, and restarting Haifa's industry to fulfil those export expectations on which the future hinges.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Back to work orders for Vulcan employees

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The district labour court here on Monday ordered Vulcan Foundries' 250 employees to end their wildcat strike and go back to work.

But the court also instructed management, which had applied for the back to work order, to temporarily reinstate 12 sacked workers whose dismissal led to the strike.

Haifa Labour Council's legal adviser, Yossi Katz, argued that the dismissals, which occurred during staff-management negotiations, contravened labour agreements.

The court also ordered that negotiations be resumed within a week over compensation to be paid to the 12 when the dismissals go into effect.

Soltam firing accord

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Haifa Labour Council yesterday agreed to the Soltam Arms and Ammunitions Factory's firing up to 500 employees — instead of the 650 the firm had originally wanted to dismiss.

The agreement includes immediate early retirement for employees with 30 years seniority or those close to 60, increased severance pay for those volunteering to leave and a five-day week for a three-month period.

Management of the factory, near Yokneam, said it had had to halve production for lack of orders.

Amal school sanctions

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Classes at all Amal high schools will begin at 10 a.m. today as the Histadrut Teachers' Union continues its sanctions in protest against the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs' failure to pay severance pay to 30 teachers dismissed at the beginning of the school year.

The Labour action, so far limited to today, will affect about 5,000 pupils in the Histadrut's Amal vocational education network.

Police hold suspects in synagogue vandalism

Kfar Sava (Iltim). — Two men suspected of mutilating Torah scrolls and prayer books in a Ra'anana synagogue and daubing anti-Israel slogans in the area were arrested here yesterday.

The men, both from Kfar Kana in Galilee, work in the Kfar Sava region.

Human rights prize

VIENNA. — The Labour Party's Beit Berl college, near Kfar Sava, was yesterday awarded one of the Kreisky Foundation's 13 annual prizes for human rights.

Past recipients are Tel Aviv University, Arye (Lova) Eliaz and Issam Sartawi, the PLO moderate who was assassinated in Madrid.

The Kreisky Foundation was created on the former Austrian chancellor's 70th birthday by Austria's state-owned banks and the Austrian trade unions.

Quality of life prizes

The Knesset Speaker is next Tuesday to award six prizes worth a total of \$90,000 to individuals and groups who have contributed to raising the quality of life. The prizes have been awarded annually on Tu B'Shvat since 1983 from a fund established by the Markovitz-Schreiber Fund and Eugene Schreiber, of France.

Paid head for Chamber of Self-employed

TEL AVIV. — Uri Arbel, who was recently discharged from the IDF with the rank of Aluf-Mishne (Colonel), has been appointed director-general of the Chamber of Self-Employed. This is the first time that the chamber, which was formed two years ago, has had a paid director-general; until now the post was filled on a voluntary basis. Arbel, a graduate of Tel Aviv University, took advanced courses in administration at the Technion.

'When times are hard, the Messiah will come...'

Hard times in two Negev towns

By LIOIRA MORIEL

BEERSHEBA. — Thirty years ago, and in line with the government's population dispersal policy, Ofakim and Netivot were set up in the western Negev. Most of those sent there were North African immigrants, and it was reasonable to think that the towns would develop similarly. In fact, they are very different.

Ofakim grew apace and its population was up to 14,000 until the recent recession caused a mass exodus of trained and educated young people.

"Nearly 90 per cent of our demobilized soldiers are unable to find work here and leave, because there is no future for them in town," says Jimmy Abukasis, deputy chairman of the Ofakim Labour Council. "Our young people are highly intelligent, and can't be expected to settle for menial jobs."

Nearly 10 per cent of Ofakim's work force is unemployed and the situation can only worsen, notes Sa'adia Iluz, the council's chairman. The diamond-cutting factory has come close to firing people several times and the poultry packing plant, has had to lay off people in the wake of government subsidy cuts to poultry farmers.

"There are fewer and fewer jobs and men and women coming out of the army have to leave town or go on the dole," one of the town's 400 unemployed told *The Jerusalem Post*. He added that there was nothing to do in town — even the pool hall was "boring."

Although this is a common sentiment, other people feel Ofakim has some potential, despite the slump. Shlomo Amar was in his jewelry shop in the otherwise empty shopping mall, but he was not complaining. "I love it here, I've been here since I was six, and I have lots of friends and lots of things to do. The ones who don't work are simply lazy."

"There's plenty of work, but it's manual labour, and they turn their noses up at that. I don't think it's right for young single men to be on the dole — especially when they get more that way than through work."

And as if to prove that point, there were no takers when Mayor Yehiel Bentov said recently that he was willing to fire all the town's Arab workers from the territories if unemployed Jews would take their jobs. There are 800 Arab workers in town — and an estimated 2,000 more who work in the area illegally.

The town is secular for the most part, despite its 30 synagogues. But recently the downtown cinema has become a Centre for Judaism, and a local yeshiva has battled the authorities for the use of a building promised to immigrants from Ethiopia.

Nearby Netivot has a population of only 8,200, but the situation is "stable," says Yosef Abutbul, the town clerk. "We have a good location, close to many moshavim whose children are forced to leave the land because of shortages of small-holdings but who want to stay in the vicinity. So there is a demand for housing in town, even for our private Build Your Own Home scheme."

But Netivot, too, shows signs of economic difficulties and "some leave in search of a job elsewhere."

Some 60 per cent of Netivot's population is under 25 and the prospect of its young people leaving in search of greener pastures is a depressing one.

There are 170 small, dilapidated apartments in Netivot standing empty. The Jewish community in France funds local Project Renewal schemes and vocational training and retraining programmes, but that cure may be too little, too late.

But for many in Netivot the hard times are a good sign, for they portend the coming of the Messiah. "There is a religious consensus in town," says Abutbul. "We all believe firmly, the Baba Sali did, in the imminent coming of the Messiah. He can appear any day and we await him. This is certainly a good feeling. The religious sources all point out that the Messiah will come when times are hard."

The Baba Sali, the Moroccan sage believed by many to be a miracle worker who lived in the town for 28 years before his death two years ago at 94, is also venerated by many Ashkenazi hassidim all over the world. Since his death, his grave has become the focal point of a yearly celebration in his honour, attended by hundreds of thousands of worshippers. Last week's celebration is not yet over, and many are still camped out on the town in search of succour at his tomb.

The Baba Sali (Rabbi Yisrael Abutbul) used to keep his walking



Relaxing over a beer in Netivot

stick near his bed at night so that if the Messiah arrived while he slept, he would be ready to follow. His belief in imminent salvation has spread throughout the town.

Netivot needs no by-laws against driving on the sabbath — nobody does. Despite police statistics to the contrary, the crime rate is said to be minimal, for juvenile misdemeanours are dismissed locally as mere childish pranks.

"We respect each other and each other's sensibilities," Abutbul sums

up. Prof. Yehuda Gradus, dean of the humanities faculty at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, told *The Post* that Netivot's religious character gives it the edge over Ofakim because religion acts as a stabilizing agent.

But Gradus faults planners for failing to create one, large town instead of several small ones dispersed throughout the Negev. "A large town would have been stronger economically," he notes.

"These towns have no political clout because of our proportional, rather than regional, electoral system. But I applaud the recent talk of a Negev party as the emergence of regionalism in an otherwise centralizing system."

Gradus believes Ofakim should become a suburb of Beersheba, which is 25 kilometres away. If a fast, direct road is built between the two cities, in place of today winding route, Ofakim could become part of Beersheba's urban constellation.

The Taba deal — a view from the Likud

By ASHER WALLFISH

Likud MK Dan Meridor yesterday raised the possibility that the Egyptian authorities had gone back on their Taba commitments that last week persuaded the inner cabinet to agree to arbitration on the disputed territory.

In the wake of statements by senior Egyptian officials on the inner cabinet's decision, Meridor told *The Jerusalem Post*: "I don't dare believe that any Israeli who briefed the cabinet about Egypt's willingness to accept a package deal over Taba misunderstood what the Egyptians were saying. But that might be the alternative, if the present trend of statements from Egypt continues."

While conceding that some weeks may pass before the Egyptian position becomes clear, Meridor stresses that the inner cabinet decision comprised a package deal with what he calls "linkage on two levels."

Israel's commitment to arbitrate was to be matched by Egypt's renewed commitment to normalization.

"Israel's implementation of the arbitration procedure was to be matched by Egypt's implementation of the many normalization agreements, according to a pre-determined timetable." The mo-



Dan Meridor (IPPA)

ment Egypt were to lag behind on implementing the bi-lateral normalization accords, Israel would halt the arbitration process."

He said that after the inner cabinet's unanimous decision Israel might have expected an enthusiastic Egyptian response, "but contrary to our expectations the Egyptian response was vague and enigmatic."

Then came the remarks which worried Meridor most by the Egyptian foreign minister to his Foreign Affairs Committee, and the subse-

quently denied report allegedly made by an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official in charge of Taba talks to an Israeli official in Rome.

The Egyptian statements, Meridor charged, were tantamount to an acceptance of only one clause in the Israeli decision, and complete reservations about all the rest.

"What do the Egyptians mean, when they say they welcome arbitration, but are ready to discuss all the other 13 points?" Meridor asked. "What do they mean by airing fresh demands?"

He is also concerned that Egypt intends to give Israel only the verdict in the Ras Burka murder case (when seven tourists including children were killed) although one of the 14 clauses in the inner cabinet decision stipulated that Israel must be given the official inquiry report on the incident and that negotiations would be opened on compensation for the victims' families.

Meridor said, "Here we have the Egyptians ignoring the very principle of linkage between arbitration and the other issues, although the inner cabinet was told that Egypt had agreed to such linkage," he said. "It is not as if Israel put any ultimatum to Egypt. On the contrary, the inner cabinet acted on the strength of assurances that Egypt had agreed to in advance," he said. "And there were understandings about an early summit between President Mubarak and Premier Peres. That was before. Today the summit seems remote."

Meridor recalls that whereas the Alignment Ministers were keen to approve arbitration without strings eight months ago, the Likud sought to get a package deal whereby Egypt would be brought to honour its obligations under Camp David and

the various agreements on trade, tourism, culture, political dialogue and the prevention of hostile propaganda.

"Some Israelis argued that if the Taba issue were not solved, relations between Israel and Egypt would deteriorate further, until perhaps the peace treaty might be abrogated and the ultimate development would be war," he noted.

"I hope that argument did not influence anybody in the inner cabinet to approve the 14 point decision on arbitration, because it is a baseless argument," Meridor said. "Taba is not the cause of the deterioration of relations and the solution of the Taba problem will not be the recipe for improvement. Egypt's actions now will prove who was right and who was wrong."

Meridor believes that the fate of the peace with Egypt is a test case for the durability of future peace treaties between Israel and other Arab countries. "If peace with Egypt collapses, the ramifications will be far-reaching."

He advocates what he calls a "carrot and stick" policy to get Egypt to respect its commitments. The American public should be told that Egypt has not been keeping its promises. "Egypt should be persuaded to return to the path of peace, if it wants to enjoy continued American support," he urges.

Meridor feels that Taba may offer a unique last opportunity for Israeli leverage on Egypt. "To have agreed to arbitration with Egypt without an Egyptian quid pro quo would have amounted to major national recklessness," he feels. "We took a reasonable and calculated risk in agreeing to arbitration with linkage. If Egypt is not ready to pay for this Israeli gesture, it is good that we know this in advance."

Greek ties to remain static

By ROY ISACOWITZ

TEL AVIV. — Greece has no intention of upgrading its diplomatic ties with Israel to ambassadorial level, Greek and Israeli sources said yesterday.

The establishment of full diplomatic relations with Spain earlier this week has left Greece the only member of the European Community without full diplomatic ties with Israel. Relations between the two countries are at one level below ambassadorial, with each maintaining a diplomatic representation, not an embassy, in the other's capital.

Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, who visited Athens last week, received "abso-

lutely no indication that Greece plans to upgrade ties," sources in Jerusalem said yesterday.

That estimation was reinforced by a senior official in the Greek diplomatic mission in Tel Aviv, who told *The Jerusalem Post* that any change was dependant on Israel's "withdrawal from all occupied territories." The ball is in Israel's court, the official said.

During his visit, Kimche and his Greek counterparts reportedly discussed improving cultural and commercial ties between the two countries. Kimche also extended an invitation to visit Israel to Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, who reportedly accepted in principle, though no date was set.

The Afula teacher murders — the police lift the wraps

By Barbara Amoyal

Six months have passed since the murders of Yosef Eliahu and Lea Elmakias, the Afula schoolteachers whose disappearance last July 22 spread fear in northern Israel and created tension in Arab-Jewish relations.

Hizaa Ali Sa'adi, 18, Othman Abdallah Bani Hassan, 19, and Nasser Bani Hassan, 17 — all from Arab-buna, a village some three kilometres west of Jenin — have been charged with the murders and are on trial in the Nazareth District Court.

Police Inspector-General David Kraus and CID Chief Yigal Marcus recently decided to make details of the investigation into the murders public, and in a ceremony yesterday at National Police Headquarters, Kraus awarded 12 members of the investigating team a total of NIS 300.

For the first time, the policemen recounted their roles in the eight-day investigation that led to the discovery of the bodies and uncovered the evidence in the case.

Kraus yesterday said, "We're still not convinced that a terrorist motive was involved — for, if so, why would the culprits have taken such care to hide the bodies?"

Yosef Eliahu, 35, a father of five, and Lea Elmakias, a 19-year-old woman doing national service, disappeared on a Sunday afternoon during a drive from the Miflath School in Afula to Eliahu's home in the town.

Police suspect that Sa'adi and Hassan shot Eliahu and strangled Elmakias in the lot of the schoolyard. It is suspected that they put the bodies in the trunk of Eliahu's car, drove it to a spot outside Jenin and hid the bodies there. The third suspect, charged as an accessory, allegedly helped take the bodies into a cave on Mt. Gilboa.

Eliahu's car was found 3km. from Jenin on Monday, the day after the couple disappeared. Police discovered bloodstains on the rear window and passenger door. In the car they found a metal saw and a rifle. Using fingerprint evidence, police traced the saw to a break-in at a farmhouse near Ma'ayan Harod, at the foot of Mt. Gilboa. Nasser Bani Hassan, a suspect in the break-in, was thus implicated in the murder.

The investigators only discovered the two teachers' bodies on Friday. They were led to the cave on Mt. Gilboa by the stench of the decaying bodies.

Inspector Maor Sasson, head of the investigation, told reporters yesterday that it would have been "practically impossible" to locate

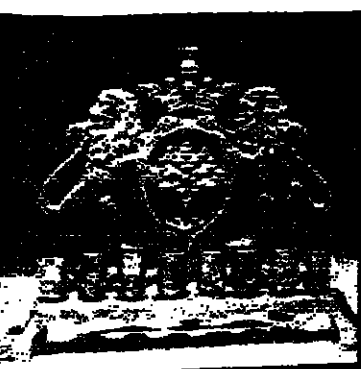
the cave because it was well-hidden by natural rock formations. "Had we arrived at the scene two days later (when the stench would have faded), we would probably not have discovered the bodies," he said.

Kraus added that "someone of slight build" had to have been in the cave to pull the bodies in. "Because of the cave's tiny horizontal opening, it would have been impossible to push the bodies in from the outside," he said.

Sasson told reporters that his team, had compiled a list of 10 suspects — including the three accused — on the same day that the car was found.

Sasson recalled how pine needles found in the car near Jenin led police to believe the bodies had been hidden in the area of Mt. Gilboa, he said.

Over 500 policemen, border policemen, civil guards and local Beduin, helped by police dogs, combed Mt. Gilboa "metre by metre," the investigators said. The search, said Sasson, extended to the Carmel mountain range near Haifa to the hills around Nazareth, and to Mount Tabor.



A COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO JUDAICA

By Jay Weinstein

An invaluable sourcebook for the collector of Judaica, the first of its kind. The guide focuses on an extraordinary range of skillfully crafted ritual objects covering every aspect of their stylistic history, with as much information as a collector needs to know. Published by Steimatzky, hardcover, 240 pages with 352 illustrations, 32 in colour. PRICE: NIS 42.20.

To: BOOKS, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me A COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO JUDAICA. I enclose a cheque for NIS 42.20.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

CODE _____

TEL. _____

The above price is valid pending any government approved price rise.

STAR WARS — PRIZE WINNERS

The Ranchi in Space and Road Safety campaign prize drawings took place on the 6/1/86 under legal supervision. The 15 winning hits are:

1, 3, 4, 5,

6, 7, 10, 11,

12, 13, 15, 17,

18, 19, 20.

Winners names can be seen on posters in any of the 23 Burger Ranch branches throughout Israel.

Come and check — Come and enjoy!

BURGER RANCH



A new island emerges in the Pacific off Iwo Jima this week following an undersea volcanic eruption. The island, which now reaches 15 metres above the ocean's surface, is 1,200 kilometres south of Tokyo. (AFP telephoto)

Ten killed in S. Africa mine clash

KRUGERSDORP, South Africa. — At least 10 people, including two white policemen, died in a clash last night between police and some 500 black mineworkers, an Anglican priest in Bickersdal township west of Johannesburg said yesterday.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said six people, including the policemen, were killed in the violence, which erupted when officers attempted to disperse an illegal gathering of miners on open ground between the Randfontein Estates gold mine and the township.

Township residents and the priest, known as Father Moloi, said police sealed off the township and were conducting house-to-house searches, arresting anyone with gunshot wounds. Residents were not allowed to go to work and those attempting to do so were turned back at roadblocks at the township entrances, as

security forces conducted a hunt for the killers of the policemen.

The clash began when two policemen attempted to break up a meeting of miners addressed by officials of the National Union of Mineworkers near the township.

The policemen told the miners they constituted an "illegal gathering" and ordered them to disperse. When the miners refused, they fired teargas canisters, residents said.

A magistrate's court here meanwhile postponed until next month the trial of black activist Winnie Mandela on charges of defying a government order banning her from her home in the township of Soweto. Mandela, wife of jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, had been due to appear at a hearing yesterday. A new court hearing was scheduled for February 19.

The charges against Mandela re-

late to incidents last month when she returned to her Soweto home despite a December 21 government order banning her from the Johannesburg and Roodepoort districts which are adjacent to the township. She faces a maximum sentence of three years in prison.

Meanwhile, in Zimbabwe, a white farmer, Victor Argyle, was murdered by dissidents Tuesday in the Shangani area, about 100 kilometres northeast of the Matabeleland province capital of Bulawayo, police said.

He was the fourth farmer to be killed by rebels in Matabeleland in three months.

The government charges that dissidents active mainly in western and southern areas during the past three years are supporters of chief opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, a charge Nkomo denies. (AFP, Reuters)

Second probe into Westland

LONDON (Reuters). — Prime Minister Thatcher came under renewed pressure yesterday to reveal more details about her government's role in the Westland helicopter affair.

Two weeks after Defence Minister Michael Heseltine resigned, provoking the worst cabinet crisis of Thatcher's 6½ years in power, the controversy over government involvement in the fate of the ailing Westland firm refuses to die down.

A second parliamentary panel, the House of Commons Trade and Industry Committee, announced yesterday it is launching its own inquiry into the affair.

Industry Minister Leon Brittan was also in the spotlight as rumours swept Parliament that a senior official in his department was found to have leaked a letter in an apparent attempt to discredit Heseltine's support for Westland.

Three Sikhs sentenced to die for murder of Indira Gandhi

NEW DELHI. — All three Sikh defendants in the Indira Gandhi murder trial were sentenced to death yesterday for assassinating the Indian leader in October, 1984.

Describing the killing as a "rarest of rare" offences the judge said the three deserved the extreme penalty. He did not set a date for the execution and defence lawyers said they would appeal to higher courts within a week.

Unprecedented security surrounded the close of the 254-day trial which started on May 13, 1985 and was held in a small, makeshift courtroom in Delhi's Tihar jail.

The pronouncement of the death sentence by hanging set off sobbing among relatives in court. The judge was listened to in silence by the accused, the late prime minister's bodyguards Sarwan Singh and Balbir Singh and civil servant Kehar Singh. They all had pleaded not guilty.

Gandhi was gunned down by two of her Sikh bodyguards in front of her home while on the way to an interview with British actor Peter Ustinov.

Two other Sikhs were found guilty of conspiracy to murder.

The prosecution said the defendants began plotting Gandhi's assassination after she sent troops into the Sikhs' holiest shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple, in June 1984 to flush out extremists fighting for a separate Sikh state in Punjab.

Tension grew in Sikh-majority Punjab state and neighbouring Haryana after the Delhi court announced its sentence. Police arrested more than 350 Sikh militants in north India in the past 24 hours to prevent trouble. (Reuters, AFP)

Heyerdahl tackles Easter Island statues

SANTIAGO (Reuters). — Norwegian explorer and adventurer Thor Heyerdahl returned to Easter Island yesterday after 30 years to try to solve one of the Pacific island's mysteries and make its giant men of stone "walk" again.

Heyerdahl, 71, famed for his voyage on the Kon-Tiki and Ra expeditions, is accompanied by three men from his original trip and a young Czechoslovak engineer who has developed a technique for moving the 20-ton "Moai" stones.

The 600 huge, heavy-browed carvings have long fascinated archeologists, who wondered how a vanished civilization moved the immense monoliths from the side of the volcano where they were sculpted to their present sites.

Legend, told to Heyerdahl's original expedition 30 years ago, is that the "Moai" statues walked.

Theories have ranged from their having been transported on tree trunks used as rollers to the assertion of Swiss author Erich von Daniken that the volcanic carvings could only have been the work of superior beings from outer space.

Czechoslovak engineer Pavel Pavel thinks the statues indeed may have walked, after a fashion, with the aid of ropes.

Heyerdahl will test Pavel's method for moving the statues with just 18 men during this six-week expedition. Thirty years ago the expedition team to the narrow Chilean island needed 180 men to move a single statue.

Heyerdahl said that Pavel had made a successful trial run in Czechoslovakia. "Of course these statues are very, very ancient and eroded now, so they are not as strong and we have to be much more careful

than people were hundreds of years ago."

Easter Island, 3,200 kilometres west of Chile, has yielded crucial evidence for Heyerdahl's theory that ancient peoples crossed the oceans between continents — a notion scorned by the scientific community 40 years ago.

Kasparov-Karpov chess rematch in late summer

MOSCOW (AP). — World chess champion Garry Kasparov says he has agreed to a late summer rematch with Anatoly Karpov, but that many questions about the contest remain.

Kasparov said the decision was reached in private negotiations with Karpov and officials of the Soviet Chess Federation on Tuesday. London and Leningrad have both offered to host the tournament.

Children reported slain

Ugandan troops riot throughout capital

KAMPALA, Uganda. — Several people including four schoolchildren were shot dead by rampaging government soldiers following clashes with National Resistance Army guerrillas on the edge of Kampala yesterday, residents said.

An elderly shopkeeper told reporters he had seen the bodies of four children by the side of the road as he was hurrying home to avoid soldiers who were shooting, robbing and harassing civilians.

Another witness said he saw several civilians with serious gunshot wounds taken to Kampala's Nsamu-bya Hospital.

Other residents said the troops had been driven back by the NRA, and that they had heard artillery fire close to the city earlier in the morning.

Gunfire was heard later in the day, but it was believed to be accompanying the rampages rather than arising from clashes between the army and the guerrillas.

By early afternoon, downtown Kampala was virtually deserted. Stores and offices were closed.

A member of the ruling military council, Lt.-Col. Eric Odior, issued an appeal for calm over state-run Radio Uganda and said all soldiers should return to their barracks.

A source on the military council said the unauthorized influx of soldiers into the capital came after commanders decided to withdraw artillery from a position 25 kilometres southwest of Kampala where army troops had been confronted by the guerrillas.

The military government and the National Resistance Army signed a peace treaty December 17 which called for them to end a five-year conflict.

But the treaty has not been implemented, and fighting between the two sides began to escalate last week. Several clashes occurred within a few kilometres of Kampala (AP, Reuters)

Poland seeks restitution for slave labourers under Nazis

WARSAW (AP). — The official Polish News Agency PAP has accused West Germany of acting unjustly by denying restitution to Poles forced to work as slave labourers during World War II.

"There are full legal, to say nothing about moral, grounds to accept the compensation claims of Poles," PAP said. "The Polish government has always maintained that Polish citizens must receive appropriate reparation for their physical and moral suffering."

The issue of restitution to former Nazi slave labourers flared up again earlier this month after a West German company, Feldmuehle Nobel, paid DM5 million (\$2 million) to a New York group representing Jews forced to work for the company during the war.

Six German companies including Feldmuehle Nobel have made restitution payments, but historians estimate that hundreds of German companies used at least 500,000 slave labourers who were taken from

concentration camps and occupied territories.

PAP noted that West Germany has made restitution payments to Jews living in Israel and other western countries, and said "The same practice" should be implemented to wards former Polish forced labourers.

The West German government has paid DM4.4 billion (\$1.7 billion) to Israel and 12 other countries as restitution, but Poland is not one of them.

Bonn Finance Ministry officials say that is because Poland which received large tracts of former German territory after the war agreed to waive war reparations until they could be handled by a United Germany.

However, up until 1969, Poles as well as other Nazi victims could apply for individual restitution payments from the West German government. Under these provisions Bonn is still paying out some DM1b. (\$690m.) a year.

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Secret Geneva talks begin on nuclear arms ban

GENEVA (AP). — U.S. and Soviet negotiators held their first detailed session on long-range, or strategic, nuclear forces yesterday in the new round of arms-control talks.

Details of the nearly three-hour meeting were kept secret under the two sides' confidentiality rule.

The U.S. was expected to request details from the Soviets on their proposal to rid the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, made when the talks opened last Thursday.

Teenager with boyfriend's heart leaves hospital

SAN FRANCISCO (AP). — Donna Ashlock, 14, left hospital here Tuesday with the transplanted heart of her boyfriend, who bequeathed it to her shortly before dying of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Donna, carrying two teddy-bears, headed home wearing a T-shirt imprinted "I Left My Heart in San Francisco".

Doctors said there had been no signs of rejection of the heart transplanted from Felipe Garza, 15, and that she should be back in school within six to eight weeks.

Donna had suffered from cardiomyopathy, a chronic heart-muscle disorder, before her January 5 operation.

Conservationists hopping mad over kangaroo cull

SYDNEY (Reuters). — The Australian government said yesterday it would allow more than 2.5 million kangaroos to be shot this year in one of the world's largest commercial slaughters of wildlife.

Angry conservationists promptly announced they would organize worldwide demonstrations tomorrow to protest the cull, likely to be nearly 700,000 more than last year's quota.

Under the Kangaroo Management Programme, Australia's national symbol, which is regarded as a pest by farmers, is killed by licensed hunters commercially for its skin and meat.

Japanese-Americans win right for reparations suit

WASHINGTON (AP). — A U.S. court of appeals on Tuesday reinstated a lawsuit brought on behalf of 120,000 Japanese-Americans removed from their homes and detained in camps during World War II.

A three-judge panel, voting 2-1, said a lower court was wrong in dismissing a suit seeking \$24 billion in compensation, because it said the statute of limitations had expired.

Attorneys of the National Council for Japanese-American Redress said the government concealed evidence that the internment posed no threat to national security. The original lawsuit was filed in March 1983.

New suit filed for woman who wanted to starve

LOS ANGELES (AP). — A quadriplegic cerebral palsy victim who tried to starve to death two years ago wants a court to order a county-run hospital to remove a feeding tube from her stomach, her attorneys say.

A suit on behalf of Elizabeth Bouvia, 28, whose paralysis is increasing, also seeks to bar doctors from taking her off a pain-killing automatic morphine-injection machine. It says they have threatened to do so if she does not cooperate with them.

An American Civil Liberties Union attorney said Tuesday before a court hearing that Bouvia has given up attempts to die rather than endure a life of pain.

Three elderly widows slain by karate blows

WASHINGTON, Pennsylvania (AP). — A martial-arts expert accused of killing three elderly widows with karate chops was convicted of first-degree murder Tuesday night.

The Erie County jury deliberated for two hours and returned the verdict against Roland Steele, who faces death in the electric chair for the murders. He also was found guilty of two counts of robbery and two counts of theft.

The panel heard eight days of testimony on the June 21 slayings of three women in their 80's, all from East Washington. Their bodies were buried under old tires at an abandoned coal mine.

More deaths in Brazil from vampire bat bites

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP). — A man aged 65 and his 11-year-old grandson have died after vampire bat bites which gave them rabies, the latest of a series of attacks that have prompted Brazilian health officials to start an anti-bat campaign.

The two were bitten in the region of Pedra Azul, near the state of Bahia, bringing to 38 the number of bat attacks in the area, one of the most affected by the recent wave.

Vampire bats, or *desmodus* as the species is called, suck about 20 cubic centimetres of blood after they bite.

SPORTS

Milan's coach fancies Maccabi

TEL AVIV. — Simac Milano's veteran American coach Dan Peterson makes Maccabi Tel Aviv 3-4 point favourites for tonight's enticing European Cup final pool basketball game at Yad Eliah.

This is somewhat surprising since Maccabi have won only one out of their five final pool games to date and are out of contention for the Cup, whereas, the Italian champions are playing very well and are very much in the thick of things.

But Peterson, 50, who has been coaching in Italy for the past 13 years knows a thing or two about the European game. He is as wise as he is engaging a man. And, he may have been indulging in a spot of pre-game psychology in predicting that Maccabi will beat his talented squad.

But he also has solid fact on his side when he points out that European competition is becoming more intense all the time and that the standards of the top clubs are consistently being levelled out so that each game is a toss up.

"Maccabi have a fine team, it's always a delight to play here and we know they showed tremendous character to pull themselves out of a hole and win that second game against the Soviets last week," he said last night.

Also, of course Maccabi is in a new role as spoilers of Milan's powerful favour in knocking the Kivna off their hitherto unbeaten perch. The Italian coach agreed with the Post estimate that Arvides Sabonis is the best centre ever to come out of Europe and that although still inexperienced, given a couple of years in the NBA "he could well become a superstar there too."

Maccabi will be looking for another portion of absolute commitment from their own super star Kevin Magee. And even though Magee said last night that he is only 80% fit as he recovers from a bout of flu, he simply doesn't know how to give anything less than 100% effort.

Durum Janichev apart, the rest of the team are thriving and raring to go after being given the boost of that victory last Thursday night in Brussels. Janichev was slightly off colour yesterday but hopes to be fit and in the starting line up at 8.30 p.m.

The game will be televised live. LINE UPS. — with visit note. (+ indicates starters) MILANO: 5 Fawcett Burgess 6 Franks 7 Andrei Black 8 Mike D'Amico 9 Steve Bickel 10 11 Kevin Johnson 12 Diego Nunez 13 14 15 Vittorio Gallinari 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057 1058 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071 1072 1073 1074 1075 1076 1077 1078 1079 1080 1081 1082 1083 1084 1085 1086 1087 1088 1089 1090 1091 1092 1093 1094 1095 1096 1097 1098 1099 1100 1101 1102 1103 1104 1105 1106 1107 1108 1109 1110 1111 1112 1113 1114 1115 1116 1117 1118 1119 1120 1121 1122 1123 1124 1125 1126 1127 1128 1129 1130 1131 1132 1133 1134 1135 1136 1137 1138 1139 1140 1141 1142 1143 1144 1145 1146 1147 1148 1149 1150 1151 1152 1153 1154 1155 1156 1157 1158 1159 1160 1161 1162 1163 1164 1165 1166 1167 1168 1169 1170 1171 1172 1173 1174 1175 11

IN 1962, Subhi DeJani, a blind principal of a school for the blind, established a braille library in Jerusalem's Shuafat neighbourhood, which today contains more than 1,000 books each in braille Arabic and English. The blind from all over the West Bank and Gaza use the centre, one of the unusual items in Jerusalem's collection of 250 libraries. "It is the only braille library in the Arab world," says Ms. Shadi, its present head.

As expected, Jerusalem flourishes with religious libraries specializing in Judaism, Hebrew and rare and ancient holy books. Middle Eastern studies is another speciality, and for this scholars and researchers say the collection at the Ecole de Bibliographie et d'Archéologie Française is the best. It is also one of the oldest establishments in the Holy City, dating from 1890, and is a pioneer in scientific research. The library is located in the Dominican Monastery on Nablus Road, where graves of the First Temple Period were discovered.

Brother Marcel Sigrist, the chief librarian, is an Assyrian language expert. Entrance to this centre is select; only those known to engage in research in the field may use the facilities. Such scholars rave about the library's catalogue, collection and service. A 1982 survey of libraries in Jerusalem, conducted by Mathilde Tagger for the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, lists the Ecole library as having 70,000 books and 300 manuscripts.

One scholar had to supply a letter of recommendation before he could use the Shoken Library in Talbich, the city's largest private library of Judaism. It was founded by German businessman and collector Salomon Schocken, who in 1934 built a house at 6 Balfour Street to accommodate his collection of Jewish literature. Head librarian Dr. Ya'acov Katzenstein says its prizes include one of the biggest collections of books on Hasidism (especially the Bratslav group), an unsurpassed collection of prayer-books and "the smallest Hebrew book ever printed" — a siddur with prayers "for any misfortune that may arise," composed in 1620 by the legendary Yehuda Aryeh of Modena. Katzenstein knows of no other copy.

The Shoken Library also contains books written on logs in concentration camps, historic sermons by famous rabbis and microfilm copies of inaccessible material from behind the Iron Curtain. The premises' limited facilities are used as an excuse to restrict access to its 55,000 volumes, 200 manuscripts and 20,000 microfilms.

BIBLE STUDIES and archeology are the main focus of the Hebrew Union College Library on King David Street, which claims to receive periodicals two weeks earlier than any other institution in Jerusalem, and of the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research on Salati el-Din Street. Nearby is the Rockefeller Museum with 50,000 books and 150 manuscripts and a very helpful staff.

Many of the city's churches have libraries that include collections on Middle Eastern studies. The Gulbenkian Armenian Library in the Old City is one of the biggest with 75,000 volumes and 300 manuscripts. The Armenian icons and church jewels in the same collection are priceless. The largest Moslem religious library is located on the Temple Mount in the Aksa Mosque.



Mixed bag of books

By LEAH ABRAMOWITZ
Special to The Jerusalem Post

and contains 10,000 volumes and 1,000 manuscripts. It includes Arabic literature and pre-Mandate newspapers.

Most yeshivot have big collections of *sifrei kodesh* (religious study books) but the biggest is that of the Hechal Shlomo Central Rabbinical Library with 50,000 volumes, many received from Europe after the Holocaust. The nearby Yeshurun Synagogue Library has a 30,000 volume collection of Judaica, much in foreign languages.

Similarly the library of Yad Harav Herzog has 40,000 volumes and 10,000 microfilms of talmudic texts and commentaries, some from the Cairo Geniza. The library was designed to produce an unending encyclopedia on talmudic studies. A woman is rarely seen on these premises.

THE FIRST library in Jerusalem, "a book centre" at the Rothschild Hospital, established in 1867, was soon closed due to rabbinic opposition. In 1873 the Ecole Homo Monastery Library was founded, and is still in use. By 1900 there were seven libraries, all belonging to monasteries except for Midrash Abrabanel, set up by B'nai B'rith. It became another battlefield between secularists and the Orthodox and grew and changed, becoming what we know today as the Jewish National and University Library on the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University.

For sheer size and variety, the National Library has no peer in Israel. One can get a library card by presenting his or her identity card, but the library's staff is often not helpful.

One scholar who used the library often (and has been a professional librarian for 18 years) says: "There is not enough professional guidance. Maybe it's a financial problem. There isn't enough staff. But it's also a matter of attitude. There is no understanding of serving the public. Getting a book out of the stacks is like getting blood out of a stone." Often she goes down into the bowels of the library to extract a book after being told it was "out/unlisted/no longer in stock."

Jerusalem's readers are more likely to check books out of one of the 20 municipal library branches (reduced from 24, due to cut-backs). Their supervisor, Dr. Abraham Wilner, notes the city also operates two mobile units, one for Jewish neighbourhoods without a permanent library, and one for Arabic readers in suburbs and villages around the capital. The mobile units and the central municipal library at the Gerard Behar Centre on Rehov Bezalel, offers music cassettes, art reproductions and educational films. At the Behar Centre (Beit Ha'am to old-timers) a club for young librarians has attracted 90 sixth and seventh graders. Some municipal branches offer a story hour for children five and up. "There are 750,000 books in all languages at the municipal libraries, 3,500 slides, 1,000 records and 200 pictures," says Wilner.

Major sources for books in English are the British Council libraries (one on Nablus Road in East Jerusalem and one in Terra Sancta) and the American Cultural Centre on Keren Hayesod. Both are rich in periodicals and fringe benefits such as the cultural centre's video tape collection and the council libraries' simplified English readers.

For readers of Hungarian there's the library operated by Leslo Brown and his wife on Rehov Yavetz. Surprisingly many of its 20,000 books are brand new. Brown, in the business for 30 years, knows what to recommend to each of his customers, and the library has the atmosphere of a friendly club.

UNIQUE libraries abound in Jerusalem. Consider: the Jerusalem Cinematheque Library with 4,000 books on cinema and TV and related subjects and 5,000 films; the Knesset Library with its excellent collection of newspapers on hydrologic rollers; the Academy of Medicine Library, specializing in the history of science and Jewish medicine; the Yad Ben-Zvi collection on Eretz Yisrael studies; and many, many more.

Two deserve special mention. At No. 1 Rehov Ibn Gavirol is the central Zionist Archive, open to the public, with 90,000 books on Zionism and the history of Eretz Yisrael, plus 500 manuscripts and 165,000 other items, including maps, microfilm and photographs.

Across the city is the Yad Vashem Library, also open to the public, but attracting mostly scholars and students. Its focus on the Holocaust includes the records of Jewish communities and many manuscripts besides its 60,000 volumes. Together they represent the tragedy and the triumph of the Jewish people in this century, and Jerusalem's 250 libraries testify that the people of the book still excel in the reading of the book.

THE NEGEV hardly conjures up images of sprawling pine forests. Yet today, only 22 years after the first saplings were planted on an experimental basis, the Yattir forest outside Beersheba boasts some four million pines spread over 26,000 dunams.

After this Sunday, the forest will be bigger by a few thousand trees as 4,000 Beersheba children participate in the annual Tu B'shvat planting and make their contribution to the greening of the desert.

Even though the Yattir forest lies on the edge of the so-called drought line, making it one of the Negev's more hospitable sites for trees, the poor soil and rocky slopes prevent them growing thickly or to really awesome proportions. But for the residents of Beersheba and the new settlements south of Hebron, the forest serves its intended purpose as a recreational centre.

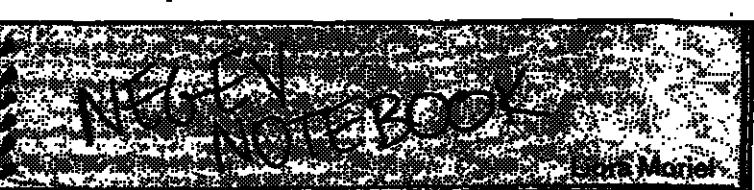
THE CASUAL observer would find it hard to believe that the Negev is home to a wide range of natural flora. The Beersheba area alone, however, includes at least 45 different species, and at Ir Ovot in the Arava stands a jujuba tree, that's estimated to be 2,000 years old. The pistachio tree, which requires little water, is another Negev veteran and is now cultivated near Mitzpe Ramon.

The Nabateans, who settled in the area at the end of the fourth century BCE, cultivated large areas of terraced land can still be found today in the uplands.

Nonetheless, the first efforts to plant trees in the Negev were greeted with scepticism. Meir Caspi of Kibbutz Magen remembers being nearly laughed off the kibbutz in the 1960s when he proposed planting an



Pine proof of success



orchard. But he had the last laugh: Today the kibbutz grows oranges on 400 dunams of land. Similarly, when Beersheba municipality decided some years ago to plant a small forest at the edge of the town, some local wits put up a sign warning visitors not to step on the treetops.

Conventional wisdom aside, there were serious obstacles to planting forests in the Negev. But, prompted by the need for trees to hold down migrating sand-dunes, provide for security and fodder, and beautify the region, scientists got down to the business of identifying which trees could best withstand the harsh environment.

The minimal rainfall, the salinity of local water supplies and the extremes of hot and cold restricted the choices. When the Jewish National Fund began planting forests in the days before the birth of the state, it found the acacia, tamarisk and eucalyptus to be suitable most of the time. But their tender roots could not withstand sandstorms.

By 1967, some 19 experimental plots had been set up at 12 locations, using 86 varieties of tree.

If the research has resulted in forests that are pleasing to the eye, such as the Yattir, they haven't earned universal praise from the scientific community. Pines aren't suitable for desert areas, critics contend, because the needles make the soil acidic; and in any case the trees are not indigenous. JNF officials retort that the pines grow quickly and stay green all year.

Driving north from Beersheba you feel that the JNF's argument has been justified. You pass thousands of trees — selected by Ben-Gurion University scientists for their ability to adapt to the Negev conditions — sporting different shapes and shades of green, but all growing without the aid of irrigation.

Strange calling

THERE AND THEN / Sraya Shapiro

monologues of Hamlet, to insinuate the intrigues of Iago, to give vent to the outbursts of a Shylock, to express Lear's emotions in the storm scene. "I think I could have never described more pungently my grief at the death of my mother than the eulogy of Peer Gynt which I delivered a few days after my mother passed away," Finkel says.

An actor depends on texts written by others for self-expression. Still — take Finkel's word for it — the actor is permeated with the will to improve the world. As long as there is theatre, he says, "there will be sublime actors who, in the guise of kings, prophets, priests and messiahs, will castigate the public from the proscaenium for not aiming for a better world." Small wonder Finkel did not see eye to eye with most

dish, then studied in Berlin and hoped to stay there, but a "Palestinian" group arrived from Tel Aviv and Finkel was adopted. That "Tai" ultimately merged with Habimah.

He fought for years against the system, brought by the founding fathers of Habimah from Moscow, which gives an equal vote to every member in choosing plays and assigning parts. He was close to retirement age when he became Habimah's artistic director. He has little praise for the turn Habimah took after he stepped down.

Reading Finkel, one realizes that the greatest handicap an actor faces is his colleagues. The agonies of friendships, hostilities and misunderstandings pester an actor's life. Possibly, many of the fears are imaginary, but they have a real impact on the actor's behaviour.

Menahem Gnessin, who tried to establish a performing group in Jaffa long before he joined Habimah founders in Moscow, once confided to me that he had written a play. "But I destroyed it, because I feared my colleagues would kill me with ridicule."

A PLEASING NEW FACE

MUSICA NOVA CONSORT. Lior Shambadal conducting (Thelma Theatre, Tel Aviv, January 19). Works by Mordechai Seter, Varese, Zvi Scharf, Xenakis, Josef Tal.

THIS new group, calling itself the Musica Nova Consort, has set itself the purpose of fostering contemporary and Israeli music. Its 15 mostly young and enthusiastic musicians from the Israel Philharmonic and the Israel Chamber Orchestra are directed and led by Lior Shambadal. Their first appearance, following 15 rehearsals, indicated seriousness and dedication; the concert proved beyond doubt that the consort has resolved to achieve perfection in details and in general interpretation. The excellent choice of works was immensely exciting.

It was indeed amazing that all works, with the possible exception of Zvi Scharf's *Festive Prologue*, (a world premiere), dealt with sound — textures, effects, sound *per se*. With this highly interesting common denominator, the works also showed great variety.

For Seter (b. 1916) to deal with sound as such is of course a novelty. *Ensemble* for six players (clarinet, bassoon, horn, viola, cello, piano) was written in 1975 in memory of the son of the painter Bezmen, who was killed by terrorists. Long sustained tone planes alternate with sections of great activity, which develop into a piercing cry. The score is almost ascetic in its use of instruments with no virtuosity applied: even the piano plays only single notes and chords. Despite the emphasis on sound, the music is shaped in melodic fragments and motifs. It leaves a deep impression.

Varese's *Octandre* (1923) exploded with incredible activity. It reveals the iron personality of its

MUSIC
Benjamin Bar-Am

composer (1883-1965), the great prophet of contemporary music, ignored in our concert halls. The clashing dissonances of brass almost blinded us with light and exuberance. Both Varese and Seter introduce sound with a perplexing variety of motivic invention. It is interesting to note how music revealed itself in Vienna in dodecaphonic structuralism and in the works of Varese, the ultimate emancipator of sound.

Plegra by Xenakis (b. 1922) creates a sound world of incredible uproar into which one is drawn as if by magic. "Plegra" is the battlefield where the new gods fight the old ones, and Xenakis' music indeed introduces hell.

Another surprise was Tal (b. 1910). His *Imago* for 15 players is actually a chamber symphony, not in terms of form but as an assemblage of sound. Tal's expressive elements carry the listener through the work.

All the performances were of the highest quality, and Shambadal deserves unqualified praise. This concert introduced a new factor into our world of music.

AN EVENING OF DUETS — Emanuel Gruber, cello; Uri Vardi, violin; Gad Levartov, viola; Uri Vardi, cello; Erella Talmi, flute and Ziv Ben, bassoon (Tel Aviv, January 19). Beethoven: Sonata for two cello; Scharf: *Epigrams* (flute and cello); Beethoven: Duet, "With Two Eyes Open Oblivion" for viola and cello; Mozart: Sonata for bassoon and cello; Kodaly: Duo for violin and cello.

THE IDEA of putting together a programme in which Emanuel Gruber participates in all five compositions, each one for cello and another instrument, was original and promising.

ing. The programme, however, created a strange paradox. At least three of the works, Beethoven, Beethoven and Mozart, were of so little musical value that their inclusion can only be explained by the need to find the right material for the framework of this special programme. Besides being poor in content, none of the three pieces contained a cello part of sufficient substance for Gruber to fully demonstrate his capabilities.

This left us with two works both of great interest: Mordechai Seter's highly individualistic, concise and introverted *Epigrams* for flute and cello, and the Kodaly Duo for violin and cello. Unfortunately, it was only in the Kodaly piece that Gruber's personality manifested all its strength, both on the musical and technical level. This single piece was enough to prove again that, with Gruber, we possess an outstanding cellist. Whenever he can find time from his responsibilities as first cellist of the Israel Chamber Orchestra and appear as soloist or in chamber music, he impresses immensely.

The other artists also deserve highest praise — cellist Uri Vardi, who shared the timid Boccherini; Erella Talmi, who immersed herself in Seter's meditations with empathy; Gad Levartov, who did his best to extract at least something from the Beethoven; and Ziv Ben, who tackled the rather simplistic Mozart with humour and alacrity. Special mention must be made of Elikum Salzman, whose brilliant violin part in Kodaly occasionally even surpassed that of the cello in substance and exposed an artist of the highest qualifications.

THERE will be a change in the programme at 8.30 p.m. Saturday at the YMCA Auditorium in Jerusalem in aid of Eran, the mental first-aid service. Pianist Alkan Sternfeld has taken ill, so Cilla Grossmeyer will now appear with flutist Avner Biron and pianist David Dolan. The interesting programme includes beautiful Argentinian songs by Lasala, Romances by Fernando Fortunati (1722), piano and flute music by Schumann and Mozart, *Lieder* by Mozart and *Three Songs of Nature* by Jerusalemite composer Haim Alexander.

Canion
Ayalon
Hypercol
Open till
midnight
(incl. Saturday)
Hypercol
Holon
Wed., Thur.
OPEN
TILL 21.00
Sun., Mon., Tue.
08.30-20.00
Open
till 20.00:
Petah Tikva
Rishon
Lezion
Jerusalem:
Talpiot
Givat Shaul B
Beersheba
Haifa
• Check Post
• Caterpillar

This Week's Bargains at HYPERCOL

CLEANLINESS COUNTS

Huge reductions on cleaning materials

PALMOLIVE 2.99
dish detergent, 1 litre only

AJAX all-purpose cleaning cream
2 for the price of 1 only

FANTASTIK 6.87
4 litres only

DANA laundry powder 6.36
3 kg. bag only

The Hit from the House of
HENKEL, producers of PERSIL

DOR, general cleaning 3.73
liquid, 750 gr. only

TU BISHVAT GOODIES

Tu Bishvat is here!
Special reductions on dried
fruit for Tu Bishvat

MEAT DEPARTMENT

Prices reduced

RED TURKEY MEAT
1 kg., 9.05
instead of 10.05

SMOKED TURKEY BREAST
"Ma'adanei Netanya" 1 kg.,
12.81 only

FREE GIFT!
SHESHEH — the gift
in instalments
With every purchase
over NIS 100, a gift from
the Sheshet set —
Italian kitchen utensils.
This week —
the set completed

Register in the Kol-Cheque Club.
It lets you pay with a post-dated
cheque — from the 2nd, on the
15th, from the 16th, on the 1st of
next month.

We honour
VISA

Club Members!
Your card is valid till April 30,
1986.

**END OF SEASON SALE IN
CLOTHING DEPARTMENT**
Up to 50% reductions

HYPERCOL



Prices of all controlled and subsidised items subject to change. Prices valid until January 28, 1986.



Shambadal — introducing a new factor

MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Israelis confront own Opec

The recent collapse in the price of oil is the triumph of market forces over the Opec cartel.

As such, it has been generally welcome, at least to non-oil-producing countries. Israel is such a case, of course, despite the few barrel skidded. The fall in the price of oil was one of the major factors responsible for the tremendous improvement in Israel's balance of trade in the last two years.

But the price of oil in Israel has not dropped for the consumer, as it has in almost every other country. Over and above the squabble between Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i and Energy Minister Moshe Shalom, the fact that the price of oil in Israel is going down, while the price remains constant.

Maintaining the price of oil and petrol, at the Treasury's insistence, means that the public is being taxed without knowing it. From each shekel spent "at the pump" the government is taking a larger share, since the cost element is going down, while the price remains constant.

Instead of boosting revenues in this back-handed manner, the Treasury could pass on at least some of the savings in the purchase price to the final consumers. This would be a powerful anti-inflationary move, in view of the key role of oil in the pricing of so many other products.

Thus, apart from petrol and oil for industry and electricity, goods and services such as plastics and public transport could cost less.

In the case of public transport, the savings could go to finance the planned cut in subsidies, instead of raising prices with all the negative effects of such a move. The effects of this move are greater than the relative weight of public transport in the consumer price index, of its high profile.

The reason why such a strategy could never be adopted, although it makes sense in itself and has support in many quarters, is that the so-called Israeli oil industry—in reality only a distribution arrangement—is a closely regulated cartel between three companies: Delek, Sonol and Paz. The cartel of talk recently that independent companies should be allowed to import oil freely and sell it at whatever price suited them, drew the predictable response from these companies. They said that the idea was not only impractical but also dangerous.

Recourse by commercial groups to the rationale of the national interest is always suspect. And in this case the idea that Israel needs these three companies' expertise—or that of the Ministry of Energy—to ensure its oil supplies, is demonstrably laughable. For one thing, we have an agreement with the U.S. whereby it will act as supplier of last resort, should the need arise.

What the oil companies need to answer is how it is that Israel is the only country where there is never even the slightest difference in price between chains of petrol stations, while everywhere else this is the normal state of affairs.

In Western Europe the newspapers have carried stories almost daily featuring price cuts by local distributors as a reaction to events on the oil markets. While no country in Western Europe falls into the category of a purely capitalist economy, the striking difference between them and us is that they allow the market to determine prices, and their companies live within a market-dictated environment. (Hence the abolition of the British National Oil Council last year—another victim of market forces.)

The Israeli energy cartel of Delek, Sonol and Paz is proving tougher than the international one, but it is to be hoped that it soon goes the same way.

Japan overtakes U.S. in Saudi imports

RIYAD (AP).—The U.S. has continued to lose ground to Japan in Saudi Arabia's declining import market, according to the first six-month trade figures for 1985 issued here yesterday by the Saudi ministry of finance and national economy.

It reported that Saudi Arabia recorded a 31.1 per cent decline in imports for the first six months of 1985, compared with the same period in 1984.

The kingdom registered a drop from 63.27 billion Saudi riyals (\$17.3b.) to 43.6b. riyals (\$11.9b.).

German-Israeli cooperation in Third World?

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI
Post Bonn Correspondent

BONN. West German experts and West German investments can play an important role in promoting Israeli knowhow in Third World countries.

This was stated recently by Dr. Hans Stercken, chairman of the Bundestag Foreign Committee. He told the *Allgemeine Juedische Wochenzeitung* here that the number of Third World countries which recognize the advantages of German-Israeli cooperation in their countries is much larger than is usually assumed.

Sources here confirmed that there are contacts between Germany and Israel concerning Third-World cooperation. It is not expected, however, that significant progress will be made in the short run. The subject is likely to come up in the talks by Prime Minister Shimon Peres during his visit here next week.

Another economic issue likely to be tackled by Peres is setting up a German-Israeli venture capital company. Peres is expected to discuss this issue and German investments in Israel with Economics Minister, Martin Bangemann.

The premier is to address the

German council of Industry and Trade.

Meanwhile, sources here say that West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg is still opposed to a bi-national German-Israeli research foundation, despite the strong support for this idea by Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The Chancellor responded positively to a suggestion by Peres to create such a foundation during their meeting in New York last October. Kohl is said to hope that an agreement in principle can be announced during Peres's current visit.

After drop, new oil crisis may develop

PARIS (AFP).—The sudden fall in oil prices should boost the world economy overall, but if the price of crude drops below \$18 a barrel, serious destabilization threatens and, in the long term, another oil crisis, according to experts.

Individual consumers, particularly motorists, most industrialized countries and numerous developing nations stand to gain from this week's fall to \$20, compared with an average \$27 during 1985.

But oil-producing countries, members of Opec, Mexico, Britain, Norway, Egypt and the Soviet Union, all stand to lose heavily, along with independent producers in the U.S.

Some major banks and international oil companies face problems too.

Western experts, oil companies and Opec members warn that a new oil crisis, following those of 1973 and 1979, could ensue in a few years if prices remain low. Exploration for new oil deposits would be reduced, production would fall, as the most costly wells closed and efforts to save energy are relaxed.

European motorists already enjoy cheaper petrol following the fall of prices on the Rotterdam markets in the wake of the December 9 Opec meeting, which decided to defend its market share, rather than prices.

In Rotterdam, the price of a ton of petrol has fallen 20 per cent since December and domestic fuel oil 34 per cent. Petrol stations have rarely passed on such large reductions, due to taxation, but prices have fallen noticeably.

The fall in oil prices will drag down other energy prices, such as coal and gas, for which contracts are indexed to the price of oil.

BEGIN'S SON

(Continued from Page One)

Begin said his father had neither encouraged nor discouraged him from entering politics. "The matter just does not come up in our conversations," he insisted. Asked about what it felt like to be Begin's son, he replied that he had "no basis for comparison, never having been anyone else's son."

In answer to a question, Begin did not deny that his father might have been misled during the Lebanon war. After stating that he did not know, he quoted his father saying once in the cabinet that he "knows about everything—sometimes before the fact and sometimes after."

This was taken to be at least a hint that Begin felt his father might have been misled by their defence minister Ariel Sharon.

Asked if he or his family bore any grudge against Sharon, he was again cryptic, saying that he "does not plan to write a book about life as a vendetta."

Asked if he knew the reasons for his father's resignation, Begin said that what he "may or may not know from private conversations does not give me the right to chatter. There is all too little discretion in our society and much too much chatter and leaking of what is said in confidence."

Begin called for cooperation and consultation between the warring camps of Yitzhak Shamir and David Levy in Herut. When the moderator pointed out that he omitted any reference to Sharon, Begin quipped: "I just read that Sharon has denied

having a camp of his own. In any case, the Shamir-Arens and Levy camps are the main groupings. They are headed by people who have spent many years with Herut both in the political wilderness and in social ostracism because of their political affiliation. They did not join Herut after the 1977 elections." When the moderator pointed out that Sharon had entered Herut after the 1977 poll, Begin wryly commented: "You note correct chronological facts."

He did not deny that in private conversations with friends he had heaped severe criticism on Sharon.

Begin argued that no policy espoused by any major political party in Israel can guarantee peace with Jordan. "Hussein is not about to agree to territorial compromise which would commit him to turning over parts of Eretz Yisrael to the Jewish people. That being the case, we must adopt that policy which will bring our people maximum security." He sought to offer legal proof for his assertion that an Israeli government is empowered to annex all parts of Eretz Yisrael under its control.

Nevertheless, when asked if he favoured Jewish settlement in the centre of Arab cities in Judea and Samaria, Begin noted that "our control of Judea and Samaria does not depend on Jews inhabiting every square metre of land there. Jews have the right to settle anywhere in Eretz Yisrael, just as they have in the U.S. and France. But not even west of the Green Line, is there a Jew on every square metre."

SHIPYARD

(Continued from Page One)

depressing almost obsolete appearance yesterday.

For veteran employees like 64-year-old Eliezer Dannenberg and his younger brother Avraham, 59, this was one of the hardest aspects.

"I came here as a lad of 13... We tackled all kinds of repairs then, nothing was too big or too small," said Eliezer, head of the ship repair department.

But he was still hopeful that the

yard could be saved if the government would implement earlier proposals to reduce the workforce and concentrate on maintenance and repairs.

Dannenberg said he had received letters of appreciation and thanks from the U.S. Sixth Fleet on the quality of repairs carried out on its ships.

He added that he had applied for early retirement but had been refused because management could not find a replacement for him.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:			Turnovers:			4.25% fully-linked		
General Share Index	98.72	+0.51%	Shares—total	NIS 3,747,200		80% linked	Falls to 3%	
Non-Bank Index	101.94	-0.23%	Arrangement	NIS 1,676,000		90% linked	Falls to 2%	
Insurance	97.42	-0.83%	Non-Bank	NIS 2,071,200		Double-linked:	Falls to 1.5-3%	
Commerce, Services	102.44	+0.17%	Bonds—total	NIS 3,801,700		Admon:		
Real Estate	109.54	+0.02%	Index-linked	NIS 2,100,800		Rimon		
Investment Cos.	101.83	-0.03%	Dollar-linked	NIS 1,700,800		Gilboa		
Industries	100.55	-0.18%	Treasury Bill:	NIS 6,760,500		For Curr:		
Metals	101.53	+0.08%				Leumoni		
Electronics	97.12	-0.40%	Share Movements:			Treasury Bills		
Chemicals	102.25	-0.40%	Advances	97	(88)	(monthly yield)	2.05 to 2.57%	
Industrial Invest.	98.80	-0.44%	of which 5%+	19	(10)			
General Bond Index	97.89	-0.53	"buyers only"	1	(4)			
Index-linked Bonds	98.12	-0.58	Declines	122	(232)			
Fully-linked	98.82	-0.33	of which 5%+	17	(48)			
Partially-linked	97.89	-0.24	"sellers only"	2	(4)			
Dollar-linked Bonds	98.83	-0.51	Unchanged	151	(110)			
Short-term 0-2 yrs	98.03	-0.53	Trading Halt	80	(35)			
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	98.15	-0.80	Bond Market Trends:					
Long-term 5+ yrs	98.79	-0.52	Index-linked					
			3% fully-linked					

TEL AVIV STOCK EXCHANGE

Name	Price	Volume	%	Change
Commercial Banks				
Maritime 1	702	1088		-2.5
First Int'l	2320	3393		-
FBI	2380	3064		+4.0
Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")				
IDB r	74850	388		+2.0
Union 0.1	6200	38		-
Discount	95400	781		+1.3
Mizrahi	30800	504		+0.4
Hapoelam r	60220	9088		+0.4
General A	128410	10		-
Leumi 0.1	51880	9834		+0.6
Fin. Trade	42780	1		-
Mortgage Banks				
Leumi Mort r	3275	422		-0.2
Dev. Mort	1710	308		-4.9
Mishkan r	10700	15		-0.9
Tel Aviv r	1625	184		+4.8
Financial Institutions				
Agri C	24800			-
Ind. Dev. DO	not trading			-
Clal Leasing 0.1	4469	172		-4.3
Insurance				
Avnati 0.1 r	2895	151		-5.8
Hassanah r	2120	2446		+3.4
Phoenix 0.1	1125	443		-7.0
Hemleham	4580	32		-7.7
Menorah 1	2380	940		-4.4
Sahar r	7450			+1.2
Zionhold 1	7450			+1.2
Trade & Services				
Meir Ezra	82			-
Supersol 2	3770	948		-
Delek r	3650	234		-
Lighterage	8839	18		-0.1
Cold Storage	775	88		+0.8
Dan Hotels	3585	34		+1.0
Yarden Hotel	not trading			-
Hilon 1	5000			-
Team 1	1480	131		-
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture				
Azolim	2515	7788		+1.0
Elion	930	5070		-0.5
Africa Int. 0.1	31400	3		-
Dankem	3000			-
Prop. & Bldg.	3880	579		-
Bayshore 0.1	8905	15		-
ILDC r	27180	83		-0.8
Ressco r	2080	238		-0.7
Mahadim	11421	238		-0.7
Hedolim	1840	592		-1.1
Industries				
Dubek b	2250	291		-1.1
Pr-Ze 1	3808	235		-1.5
Worflow 1	5225	30		-
Sunflow	9850	87		+0.9
Edgar	540	374		+0.8
Argaman r	4130	12		-2.8
Delta G 1	5170	203		-1.0
Masqote 1	19762	38		+5.0
Engle 1	5012	23		+4.0
Polgat 0.1	7400	63		-
Schoellera	9010	50		-0.1
Rogovin	2772	289		-
Unigot 1 r	11700	47		-
Is. Calif. 1	712	2828		-
Zion Cable	1865	340		-1.8
Packer Steel	3650	68		+1.4
Elbit 3 r	411000	9		-1.2
Electronics				
Elron	382000	5		-0.3
Art	35200	37		-
Clal Electronics	2400	627		+0.4
Spectronix 1	1460	527		+0.4
T.A.T. 1	3200	51		+3.2
Ackstein 1	1025	2063		-0.5
Agan 5	13800	31		-
Alliance	789	257		-0.4
Dexter	2510	34		+5.8
Fertilizers	9500	52		-4.8
Haifa Chem.	864	68610		-0.1
Teva r	47800	48		-
Dead Sea r	12500	548		-0.1
Parochem	313	10698		-
Naca Chem.	3630	74		+2.6
Frutaron	9800	50		-0.1
Hadera Paper	131800	51		+0.5
Central Trade	5250	438		-1.1
Koor P	4040000			-
Clal Inds.	1152	6284		-
Investment Companies				
IDB Dev. r	2780	257		-
Elion	1750	401		-
Alt 1	610	578		-3.2
Gahelet	1300	10		-4.0
Jarzel Corp. 1	3375	929		-
Wolfson 1 r	58800			-
Hapoelam Inv.	3535	564		+3.6
Leumi Invest.	3715	186		-
Discount Invest.	3790	1518		-
Mizrahi Invest.	7840	13		-
Clal 10	1980	1788		-
Landeco 0.1	8500			-
Pana 0.1	5540	361		-0.2
Oil Exploration				
Oil Exp. 1	10600	19		-
J.O.E.L.	1297	2030		-

FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

Israel Money Markets January 22, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES

PRIME BORROWING RATE: 2 1/4% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	LAST UPDATED	TAPAS	PAKAM 7-DAY	PAKAM 30-DAY
LEUMI	22.1	13-29%	13-29%	12-24%
HAPOALIM	9.1	15-25%	20-25%	21-28%
DISCOUNT	8.1	14-25.5%	15-26%	16-27%
MIZRAHI	8.1	12-19%	12-24%	12-24%
FIRST INT'L	8.1	16-30%	20-26%	26-28%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapes: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH—FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of January 22)

	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD	7.500	7.500	7.625
STG	12.125	12.250	12.125
DMK	4.000	4.000	4.125
SFR	3.375	3.500	3.500
YEN	5.125	4.875	4.875

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS		BANKNOTES		BANK OF ISRAEL <i>Representative Rates</i>
		<i>Purchase</i>	<i>Sale</i>	<i>Purchase</i>	<i>Sale</i>	
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1.4763	1.4847	1.46	1.52	1.4859
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	2.0757	2.1015	2.03	2.13	2.0950
GERMANY	MARK	1.5994	1.6098	1.59	1.62	1.6034
FRANCE	FRANC	1.1953	1.1978	1.19	1.20	1.1966
HOLLAND	GULDEN	1.5324	1.5380	52	55	53.67
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	7.067	7.1155	68	73	7.111
SWEDEN	KRONA	1.1931	1.1955	19	20	1.1943
NORWAY	KRONE	1.1944	1.1968	19	20	1.1957
DENMARK	KRONE	1.1632	1.1652	16	17	1.1643
FINLAND	MARK	2.0704	2.0738	17	18	2.0722
CANADA	DOLLAR	1.0500	1.0531	1.03	1.06	1.0570
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1.0482	1.0612	98	1.08	1.0650
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	1.6474	1.6554	53	58	1.6516
BELGIUM	FRANC	10	2896	28	30	2.923
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	10	1.8519	84	88	1.8581
ITALY	LIRE	100	8910	86	81	8.956
JAPAN	YEN	1000	7.294	72	75	7.341
JORDAN	DINAR	1	—	3.95	4.19	3.9599
EGYPT	POUND	1	—	83	88	8.885
* ISSUED BY BANK OF ISRAEL						

